1. **To sharpen our focus:** We will deliver world-class research that is challenge-led by prioritising our endeavours and investments in areas where we can be internationally competitive. This continuing process will build on our strengths, develop growing areas, and anticipate emerging opportunities.

2. **To deliver high-quality and impactful research:** We will continually raise the quality of our research outputs, embedding impact throughout the research life cycle, and measure our progress and competitiveness in the sector through the Research Excellence Framework (REF) outcomes. Our research will inform our teaching to challenge and inspire, and will create a talent pipeline of future researchers.

3. **To nurture excellent researchers:** We will attract, support, develop and empower a diverse community of talented researchers and research students, enabling them to deliver world-leading research and innovation. We will foster a research environment that is inspiring, intellectually challenging, inclusive, collegiate, and promotes collaboration.

4. **To engage externally and to build partnerships:** We will foster existing relationships and build new strategic partnerships with research organisations, charities, the public sector and industry to strengthen our research and enterprise endeavours. We will drive interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to shape research with significant cultural, economic and societal impact. We will influence and shape policy and practice by ensuring that our researchers represent the University on national and international funding organisations.

5. **To enhance research infrastructure and to simplify processes:** We will invest in new facilities and optimise use of existing infrastructure in line with our priorities. We will ensure internal processes are efficient and research support services are of the highest quality.
Introduction
The University of Hull has a proud heritage of academic excellence and a track record of delivering innovative and impactful research, spanning local, national, and global concerns.

Our past achievements have been impressive but do not guarantee future success. The purpose of this Research Strategy is to enable and empower all our researchers to carry out excellent research that competes at an international level and delivers impacts of benefit to society. It outlines a research agenda that will ensure the University of Hull continues to grow in stature, reputation, and influence. This strategy builds upon the research priorities set out in the University’s Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and is complementary to the University Education Strategy to ensure seamless delivery of our vision for academic excellence that empowers people to shape the future.

Research Vision
Our vision for research is to be an outstanding research university, securely placed in the top 50 UK universities for research, with a focus on achieving significant increases in research quality and income.

With research at the heart of our activities, the University of Hull will be an organisation where our researchers want to work, partners want to engage, and research students want to study.

Key Objectives
To achieve our strategic aims, we have identified a number of objectives and actions, which will be supported by a Research Strategy Implementation Plan. To achieve the objectives, support will be provided by the University Leaders Team, Faculties, Research Institutes, Schools, Graduate School, Research and Enterprise and other professional services as appropriate. We will:

Sharpen our focus by:
I. Attracting and recruiting excellent researchers to sustain or expand research priority areas.
II. Focusing internal resources and strategic investments, such as PhD scholarships and research prize funds, on our research priority areas.
III. Supporting interdisciplinary research and collaborative approaches that create novel insights and address key regional, national and global challenges.
IV. Understanding the competitive landscape through effective market and funder intelligence to identify opportunities for growth and investment.
V. Continuously reviewing performance against the sector and deviating from areas that are underperforming.

Deliver high-quality and impactful research by:
I. Ensuring that all independent researchers are continually producing excellent research outputs (equivalent to 3* or 4* in REF).
II. Securing funding for longer, larger research projects.
III. Identifying opportunities for collaborative funding and co-investment.
IV. Ensuring that all independent researchers are continually producing excellent research outputs (equivalent to 3* or 4* in REF).
V. Communicating clearly about our capabilities, successes and innovative research.
VI. Developing and embedding a public engagement strategy.
VII. Enhancing the resilience of our research portfolio by diversifying our funding sources both nationally and internationally.
VIII. Embedding robust peer review and support procedures for research applications, outputs and impacts to raise the quality of our research.
IX. Promoting a vibrant research culture which values industry, diversity, respect and integrity.
X. Ensuring robust procedures to drive our diversity and inclusion agenda to enhance a culture of equality.

Nurture excellent researchers by:
I. Attracting, supporting, training and developing research staff at all career stages.
II. Identifying and prioritising areas of research excellence that will enable and empower researchers.
III. Developing and supporting research leaders through mentoring, training and coaching.
IV. Recognising and rewarding excellence in research and innovation.
V. Embedding robust peer review and support procedures for research applications, outputs and impacts to raise the quality of our research.

Engage externally and build partnerships by:
I. Providing support to stimulate and facilitate external engagement.
II. Identifying opportunities for collaborative funding and co-investment.
III. Participating in strategic partnerships and networks.
IV. Strengthening our relationships locally, nationally and internationally with government, NGOs, public and private organisations to strategically align with and influence their priorities through collaborative research and consultancy.
V. Communicating clearly about our capabilities, successes and innovative research.
VI. Developing and embedding a public engagement strategy.
VII. Engaging researchers to represent the University and influence research policy on a national and international level.

Enhance research infrastructure and simplify processes by:
I. Investing in the facilities, equipment and technical staff necessary to deliver high-quality research.
II. Ensuring that we have the capacity to carry out excellent research, and that the relevant mechanisms are in place for the seamless delivery of high-quality research.
III. Optimising the effectiveness of our research systems, processes and governance to reduce unnecessary administration and to provide access to tools for benchmarking.
IV. Ensuring professional services are agile, flexible and connected in their support for research and researchers.
V. Continuing support for open access and research data management.
VI. Complying with the Concordat to which we are signatories.