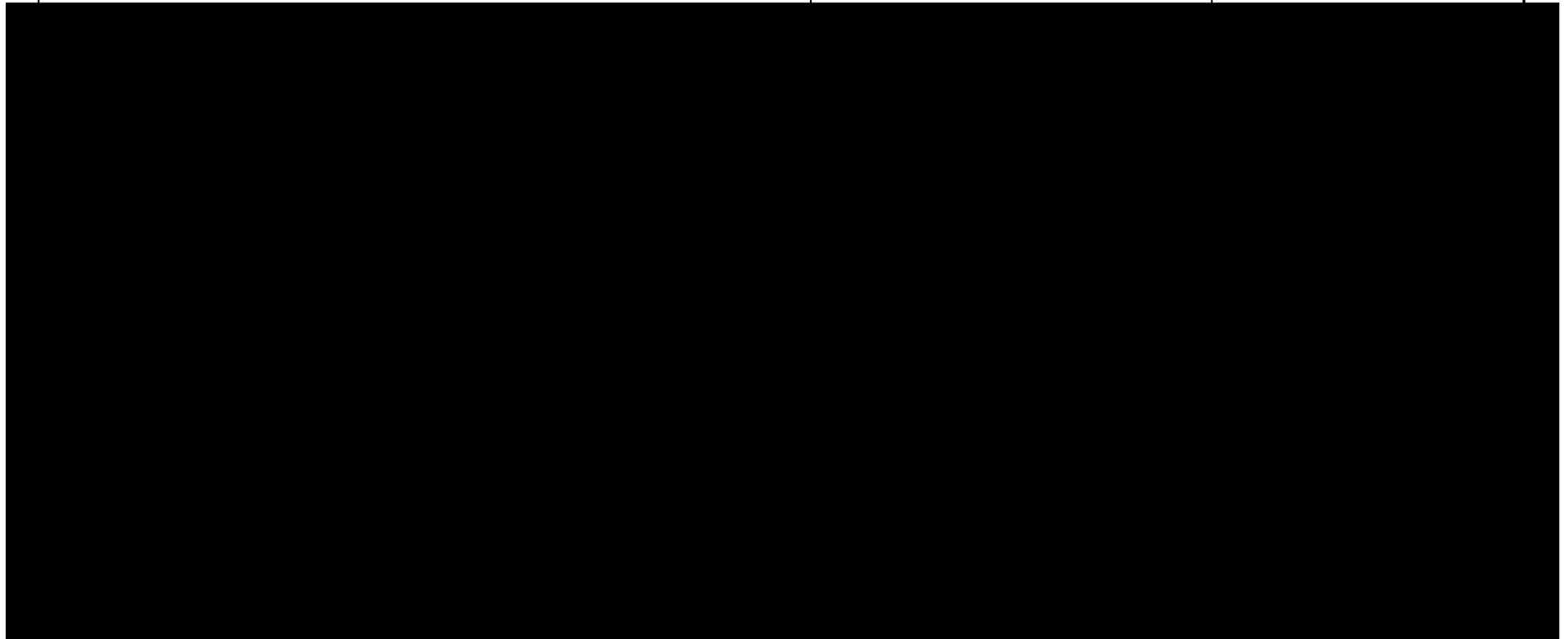


Summary of discussion, decisions and actions from the Research Careers Network meeting on Tuesday 14 March 2017

Attendees (Swindon)	<div>[REDACTED] (STFC)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (RCUK ED) (Secretary)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (ESRC) (Co-Chair)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (MRC)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (NERC)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (EPSRC)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (AHRC)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (RCUK ED)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (AHRC)</div>
Guests	<div>[REDACTED] (Scottish Funding Council)</div>
Apologies	<div>[REDACTED] (RCUK ED)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (BBSRC) (Co-Chair)</div> <div>[REDACTED] (AHRC)</div>

Summary of discussion	Decisions	Actions
Item 1: Minutes, actions and matters arising		
<p>██████ introduced ██████ to the meeting and member introductions took place.</p> <p>The minutes of the 24 February meeting were reviewed and outstanding actions discussed. The action log will be updated as necessary.</p>		



Summary of discussion	Decisions	Actions
Item 3: London Weighting – [REDACTED]		
<p>[REDACTED] introduced the paper on London Weighting. The Research Councils had received feedback that the level of London weighting may not be aligned with that provided by other funders and not applying this 'weighting' to other "expensive" cities had also been questioned. This paper gave the RCN members the background to the current Research Council policies and asked for feedback on the next steps to be taken.</p> <p>In line with the evidence collected, it was highlighted that the funding for London weighting was comparable with what other funders offer.</p> <p>[REDACTED] asked for confirmation from the network whether this was an area that needed further investigation or were the members content with the current stance.</p> <p>RCN members noted that as stipends increase annually in line with the cost of living, should the element of funding for London Weighting also increase?</p>	<p>Members agreed that as there have only been an isolated number of</p>	<p>[REDACTED] to calculate what the new funding would look like</p>

Summary of discussion	Decisions	Actions
<p>There is rationale to increase the amounts for London weighting in line with inflation in the future, but not as an immediate priority. This could be introduced in line with the annual stipend uplifts. They would not be added retrospectively; any uplift would commence from the next academic year.</p> <p>██████ noted that there have been some changes in relation to the approval process for the annual stipend uplift and asked ██████ to confirm the process with OOB</p>	<p>queries in relation to this funding and no university queries have been received, that this is an area that can be revisited and feed into the discussions on the next stipend uplift.</p>	<p>and circulate to the network for information.</p> <p>██████ to confirm the revised requirements for agreeing the annual stipend uplift process with OOB.</p>

Next meeting: Monday 10th April 11.00-14.00