
Institute of Regulation

Response to UKRN strategic consultation

February 2024

1. Introducing the Institute of Regulation

The Institute of Regulation (IoR) was established as a membership organisation in 2021, building on previous informal networks between UK regulators.

IoR was formed to improve UK regulation by encouraging the spread of good regulatory practice; providing education and training for regulatory professionals; and building peer networks for those involved in UK regulation.

IoR seeks to establish as the 'home of good regulation', to be trusted, authoritative, and supportive on regulatory matters.

Already the IoR membership network extends to over 500 individuals, regulators and regulatory experts, covering around a quarter of UK regulatory bodies, as well as affiliate members from the commercial and third sectors who work with, supply or have an interest in regulatory issues.

The IoR is first and foremost professional network, not a trade body nor representative organisation. As such, this response represents the views of the Institute of Regulation directors, informed by collated insights from the IoR membership.

2. Opening remarks

IoR trustees warmly welcome the opportunity to respond to the UKRN strategic consultation.

As organisations offering membership to the regulatory community, UKRN and IoR share some clear commonalities of interest and attention, which present opportunities for collaboration.

IoR offers membership to a wide and diverse community of experts and professionals involved in regulation from UK and beyond. And this diversity of the IoR community enables IoR to bring something distinctive to the regulatory conversation.

As IoR continues to establish, we are actively seeking partnership and collaborative opportunities which support our objectives:

- To promote and provide education and training in the theory and practice of regulation.
- To research, develop and promote good practice in regulation.

IoR remains particularly supportive of the potential to collaborate with UKRN, where commonalities of interest and opportunity exist.

3. UKRN objectives and outcomes

The proposed UKRN objectives address some of the core interests of the regulatory community, though perhaps the final strategy might clarify further the specific outcomes and impacts the regulatory community should expect arising from UKRN investment.

There are three objectives which appear to be most closely related to IoR member interests:

- Promoting collaboration
- Championing effective regulation
- Making regulation an attractive career choice

As follows the confirmation of the final strategy, UKRN might clarify priority areas for partnership in due course, something of interest for IoR and indeed likely for other prospective partners.

IoR trustees particularly welcome that UKRN continue to champion effective regulation. In part because regulation is not well understood or indeed appreciated at this time. IoR will continue to promote consideration of 'good regulation'. Changing perceptions and attitudes towards regulation is no small undertaking, well suited to a collaborative approach. As such, IoR invites UKRN executive and members to consider developing a campaign in partnership.

Finally, the lack of professional career routes for regulators is a central feature of IoR membership offering. IoR will continue to develop professional development opportunities, while raising awareness of the need for greater investment in the regulatory talent pipeline and professional career pathways for regulators. We welcome UKRN's renewed commitment to regulatory professionals and once again, seek consideration for the exploration of collaborative opportunities here.

4. Further information

Further information about the IoR can be found on our website: www.ioregulation.org. Inquiries can be directed to: info@ioregulation.org or director@ioregulation.org.