

Summary of Changes: PGR Change of Circumstances Policy (2022 vs 2025)

This document provides a structured comparison between the 2022 Final version and the 2025 Draft version of the Postgraduate Researcher (PGR) Change of Circumstances Policy. It highlights key updates, additions, removals, and clarifications introduced in the 2025 draft.

Category	2022 Policy	2025 Draft	Change Summary
Title and Terminology	Varied titles used, e.g., "Change of Circumstances for Postgraduate Researchers".	Consistent use of "Postgraduate Researcher (PGR) Change of Circumstances Policy".	Standardised terminology for clarity and consistency.
Leave Categories	Limited categories such as Maternity, Adoption, and Paternity Leave.	Expanded categories including Neonatal Care Leave, Pregnancy Loss, Carer's Leave.	Broader recognition of diverse personal circumstances.
Visa and Immigration	Minimal mention of visa implications.	Dedicated section with guidance and links to Immigration and Visa team.	Improved support for international PGRs.
Council Tax and Accommodation	Brief mention of implications.	Detailed guidance on Council Tax exemption and University accommodation.	Enhanced clarity on administrative impacts.
Funding Implications	General advice on funding changes.	Comprehensive guidance on UKRI, studentships, charity funding, and loans.	Expanded financial advisory content.
Types of Change Requests	Grouped together with limited detail.	Clearly separated and defined: Interruption, Mode of Attendance, Extension.	Improved procedural clarity and navigation.
Roles and Responsibilities	Basic outline of responsibilities.	Expanded responsibilities for PGRs and supervisors with referral guidance.	Greater accountability and support structure.
COVID-19 Specific Content	Includes COVID-related mitigating circumstances.	Removed pandemic-specific references.	Reflects transition to post-pandemic policy.
Submission Pending and Resubmission	Mentioned in policy.	Moved to separate policy.	Streamlined content.

Policy Governance	Version 4 (June 2020), review cycle not clearly stated.	Version 5, next review date set to October 2028.	Updated governance and review timeline.
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