



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

# Guide to Employment and Finance Approvals including Delegation

## Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Introduction .....   | 2  |
| Delegation in People and Money .....                         | 3  |
| Employment Approvals .....                                   | 4  |
| Finance Approvals .....                                      | 6  |
| General Ledger and Planning and Budgeting Module (EPM) ..... | 6  |
| Projects and Grants .....                                    | 12 |
| Appendix 1 - Job Levels and Financial Approval Limits .....  | 18 |
| Appendix 2 – HR and Finance Approval Workflow .....          | 20 |
| HR approvals - Job Requisitions and Change Assignments ..... | 20 |
| Finance Approval Workflow .....                              | 21 |
| Managing Research Salary Costs .....                         | 22 |
| Appendix 3 - Finance approval workflow routing options ..... | 23 |
| Appendix 4 - HR approval scenarios and final approvers ..... | 24 |

## Introduction

This Guidance describes how Employment and Finance approvals have been designed and operate in People and Money, including the Principles of Adoption and System Delegation.

The Principles of Adoption and System Delegation were agreed by the Design Authority in June 2020. These have been reviewed by the Enactment Group (November 2021). These are:

We want to achieve our design principles/business case through simplification, standardisation, reduction of duplication and unnecessary steps and automation of administrative workload and not through displacement of work from one part of the organisation to another or from one group of colleagues to another – professional services staff to academic staff; junior to more senior – where there could be hidden costs.

The Design Authority has agreed the following for direct access, system delegation and system roles:

### **Benefits Realisation**

- Benefits will be realised through the simplification, standardisation and reduction of duplication and automation of administrative workloads.
- Benefits will not be realised through the displacement of work from one part of the organisation to another or from one group of colleagues to another where there could be hidden costs – such as professional services staff to academic staff or junior to more senior staff.

### **Accountabilities and Responsibilities**

- The approved financial control environment is a set of policies and procedures that enables the University to operate effectively to achieve its objectives in an environment that focuses on accountability and ethics along with the prevention of theft, fraud and reputational damage.
- The future HR and Finance end-to-end processes include a consistent approach to line management responsibilities throughout the University and make clear accountability for decisions.
- Line managers remain responsible and accountable for ensuring policies and procedures are adhered to, and they retain accountability for ensuring their line manager responsibilities are completed.
- Only University of Edinburgh employees may carry out employment and financial approvals

### **Standard Delegation Criteria**

To ensure that delegation is utilised appropriately and consistently, the following Standard Delegation criteria must be adopted:

- Delegation is for ALL People and Money approval responsibilities to a single person, who must be a University of Edinburgh employee.
- Delegation is in response to a short term need i.e. annual leave, specific work priorities compromising capacity for a period, a period of someone acting up to cover additional responsibilities.
- Delegation must have an end date (exception is where someone is on long term sickness).
- Delegation is for a maximum of 3 months.
- Delegation must be to someone on a higher job grade, same grade or a maximum of two job grades below with the caveat that delegation should not be to a member of staff below a grade 6 (it is deemed appropriate that a manager passes their responsibilities to a depute for a period of time).
- Delegation should be to an appropriate deputy rather than all managers in a School/Department delegating to a single person.
- To ensure financial control and segregation of duties, where a line manager has delegated to one of their reports the delegatee must not submit transactions during the period of delegation.

### Delegation in People and Money

Delegation should be set up using Vacation Period within People and Money, prior to the planned absence. A start and end date must be selected along with the name of the person to delegate to. Further information is available in the user guide [PM1167 – How to Set up Delegation for a planned or unplanned absence](#) (available under the heading of Absence and Leave).

Delegation will begin after the date of set up, if there are any 'in flight' approval tasks assigned to you before the start date of the delegation period, these will continue to sit in your worklist for action. It is therefore important to set up the vacation period and approve any inflight tasks before taking any leave.

## Employment Approvals

The following tables provide a summary of the transaction approvals for each of the HR processes.

| Process                  | GH Refresh  | Recruitment<br>(Job requisition)  | Annual Leave  | Change to<br>Assignment  | Timecards for<br>Payment   |            | Parental Leave  | Unpaid leave  |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|------------|---|---|
| <b>Process summary</b>   | Minimum hours offer for a defined period  | Process to recruit new employees (all contract types)   | Request of annual leave against allocated allowance   | Changes to an employees grade, FTE, contract end date                      | Timecards claim for hours worked by an employee (includes overtime)      |            | Enables employees who meet the necessary criteria to take unpaid leave to look after their child up to their 18th birthday. | Enables employees who meet the necessary criteria to take unpaid Special leave. |
| <b>Impact of process</b> | Financial commitment created as minimum hours must be paid even if work is not then offered | Financial commitment created per grade and FTE and contact duration (excl GH where commitment is based on offer of refresh hours) | Master data set of when an employee is working or on leave. Tracks leave against allowance. Determines leave to be paid/recovered at end of contract. | Financial commitment amended per grade and FTE and contact duration change | Results in payment of employee. GH hours paid will appear in the GH app. |            | Impacts on the pay of employees taking parental leave   | Impacts on the pay of employees taking Unpaid special leave                     |
| <b>Initiator</b>         | GH Administrator  | Line Manager or School/ Department Administrator (SDA)*   | Employee or Line Manager or SDA* on their behalf.   | Line Manager or SDA*   | Employee   | Timekeeper | Employee or Line Manager or SDA   | Employee or Line Manager or SDA   |

|                               |      |  |              |  |                |      |   |   |
|-------------------------------|------|--|--------------|--|----------------|------|---|---|
| <b>Initial Approver</b>       | None | Line Manager if initiated by SDA, otherwise it is further approval route below                                 | Line Manager | Line Manager if initiated by SDA, otherwise it is further approval route below                                 | Line Manager** | None | Line Manager if initiated by Employee. None if initiated by Line Manager or SDA | Line Manager if initiated by Employee. None if initiated by Line Manager or SDA |
| <b>Further Approval Route</b> | None | Finance Manager<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Line Manager<br>School/Dept Budget Holder<br>College/PSG Main Budget Holder | None         | Finance Manager<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Line Manager<br>School/Dept Budget Holder<br>College/PSG Main Budget Holder | None           |      | None  | None  |

\*A School/Department administrator (SDA) role has been developed to initiate HR transactions on behalf of a manager as approved by the Design Authority. This allows the role holder to complete and submit HR transactions for approval but does not provide approval rights for these transactions.

\*\*Timecard Approvals - If an employee has multiple assignments, they enter the time worked against any or all of their assignments on a single monthly timecard. Approval will be sought from the line manager of each respective assignment (or timekeeper on their behalf) before the time card is ready to be submitted to Payroll for payment. This means that if one of their managers/timekeepers fails to approve the time card before the payroll deadline the employee will not be paid for any of their assignments. Further information is available within the [Guide to Time Recording](#).

## Finance Approvals

The following tables provide a summary of the approvals for each of the Finance processes.

### General Ledger and Planning and Budgeting Module (EPM)

The standard approval routing in People and Money includes approval by every line manager in the requestor's hierarchy until the transaction is approved by a line manager with the required job level/approval limit. There will be between 1 and 8 approval points depending on the value of the transaction and the job levels held by approvers in the hierarchy. Details of job levels and financial approval limits are provided at [appendix 1](#).

| Process                | Purchase Requisition  | Change Order                      | Manual purchase invoice exempt invoice (Offline Form)       | Non-trade vendor payments (Offline Form)                                | Accounts Payable Credit Memo                                      | Employee Expenses   | Expense Advances  | Sales Invoice   | Accounts Receivable Credit Memo (Offline Form) | Refunds                      | GL Journals   | Budgets and Forecasts  | Salary Costing Changes (Form 13 offline)   |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| <b>Process summary</b> | Initial request to start the purchase to pay process, and to check budget available | Make a change to a purchase order | Manual input and approval of a supplier invoice for payment | Manual input and approval of a payment to a non-trade vendor or student | Allocate a credit from a supplier to the appropriate account code | An employee claiming payment of appropriate personal expenditure in line with the Expenses Policy | Employee request for an advance payment for travel and subsistence expenses | Sales invoice to be generated for customer or student | Apply a credit to a customer's account         | Issue a refund to a customer | Ability to add or move actual, accrued or prepaid costs or income | Submission and approval of draft financial budgets and forecasts | Changes to the chart of account coding values and/or percentage split if multiple coding allocations per employee assignment |

|                          |   |  |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |   |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|
|                          |   |  |   |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |   |  |   |
| <b>Impact of process</b> | Approval of the requisition creates the financial commitment, reserves the funds and submits the requirement to purchase to Procurement | Approval of the change order updates the financial commitment, reserves the funds and submits the amended purchase requirements to | Approval will allow the payment to be made and the cost allocated to the correct account code | Approval will allow the payment to be made and the cost allocated to the correct account code | Approval will allow the credit to be allocated to the correct account code | Uncommitted cost where approval will allow the actual cost to be allocated to the correct account code | Approval allows the expense advance to be paid into the requestor's bank account | Monies due to the university are received and allocated to the correct account codes | Approval will allow the debit to be allocated to the correct account code and matched to the original sales invoice | Refund paid into the customer's bank account | Actual, accrued or prepaid costs or income transferred to appropriate account codes | Approval of the draft completes draft submission, escalating it to the next approval level – e.g. from school – to college – to University Group | Changes the budget the actual cost is coded to and/or percentage allocation of the total cost |

|                              |   |  |  |   |  |          |          |  |   |   |   |  |                     |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--|----------|----------|--|---|---|---|--|---------------------|
|                              |   | Procurement  |  |   |  |          |          |  |   |   |   |  |                     |
| <b>Initiator (Requestor)</b> | Individual who needs to make a purchase | Individual who initiated original requisition (user within school or department) or procurement operations | Individual who requests payment of invoice (invoice owner) and submits form and backup to Finance Helpline | Individual who requests payment (payment owner) | Individual who initiated the original requisition/ payment | Employee | Employee | Individual who requests the invoice (sales invoice owner) or source interface e.g., SITS | User who initiated the original sales invoice | Triggered by Sales Credit Memo process where original sales invoice is paid | Finance Business Partnering Team Member | School Finance Business Partnering team<br>(off system Head of School/DoP) | Line Manager or SDA |



|  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                      |  |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------|--|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Preparer</b><br><br>(Completes request in People and Money) | Nominated user with a requisitioning role (may also be the requestor) | Nominated user with a requisitioning role or Procurement Operations buyer   | Finance Operations Accounts Payable                                   | Finance Operations - Accounts Payable                                       | Accounts Payable  | Employee or their Proxy   | Employee or their Proxy   | Accounts Receivable  | Accounts Receivable  | Accounts Receivable                                 | Finance Business Partner or FIRST (other employees can complete a manual journal request template) | Finance Business Partner   | Payroll                                  |
| <b>Initial Approver</b>  | Requestor's Line Manager  | Approval required where change order value is increased beyond tolerance.<br><br>The first approver from the original requisition | Requestor's Line Manager  | Requestor's Line Manager  | Credit memo requestor's Line Manager                                  | Employee's Line Manager<br><br>(Employee approves prior to their Line Manager if the expenses have been submitted by a proxy on their behalf) | Employee's Line Manager<br><br>(Employee approves prior to their Line Manager if the expense advance has been submitted by a proxy on their behalf) | No approval required | Credit Memo request form – requestor's line manager          | Approval is via the manual Credit Memo request form | Journal approver based on value of journal (approval groups)                                       | Finance Business Partner/ Head of College Finance<br><br>(Off system Head of College/ Registrar) | Form 13 Manual Approval by Line Manager  |
| <b>Further Approval Route (if required)</b>                    | Requestor's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job | Approver from the original requisition approval hierarchy with the  | Requestor's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job | Requestor's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level | Requestor's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job | Employee's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level  | Final approval by Finance Operations Audit before payment is made   | N/A                  | Credit Memo request form - Appropriate line manager based on | Approval is via the manual Credit Memo request form | N/A  | Deputy Director/ Director of Finance<br><br>(Off system – Planning Triumvirate)                  | As per Approval table below (Appendix 2) |

|             |   |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |                                     |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
|             | level approval limits of each Line Manager  | required job level/approval limit (last approver only - intermediate approvers are omitted from the approval routing)                                 | level approval limits  | approval limits  | level approval limits up to minimum job level 3 only regardless of value.       | approval limits  |  |   | transaction value and job level approval limits                    |  |  | then Finance and General Purposes Committee)           |                                     |
| <b>Risk</b> | Requisition not approved promptly<br><br>Appropriate budget checks not completed by Line Manager/nominated approver resulting in potential overspend. | Change order not approved promptly<br><br>Appropriate budget checks not completed by Line Manager/nominated approver resulting in potential overspend | Payment not approved promptly<br>Appropriate budget checks not completed by Line Manager resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs | Payment not approved promptly<br>Appropriate budget checks not completed by Line Manager resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs | Credit from supplier not approved promptly to allow refund payment to be issued | Appropriate budget checks and validation to policy are not completed by Line Manager resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs | Appropriate budget checks and validation to policy are not completed by Line Manager resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs | Sales invoice issued in error or with incorrect value | Credit memo invoice issued without correct manual approval of form | Refund issued when a further invoice to replace is due | Journals not posted on time resulting in Financial position not reported correctly. Risk if key staff unavailable at month end | Budget/forecast delays to submission process on system | Approver on form is not appropriate |

|                   |  |  |  |   |  |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |                                     |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Mitigation</b> | Preparer able to view approval hierarchy and follow up with relevant approver if delays. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Preparer able to view approval hierarchy and follow up with relevant approver if delays. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Requestor can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Preparer can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Requestor can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. | Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Credit Memo issued to correct any identified errors | Finance to review approval information | Ensure replacement invoices are submitted at the same time as the sales credit memo request | FBP and FIRST monitor outstanding approvals | Visibility of deadlines to allow budget holder discussion and data review in advance of finalising submission | Payroll review approval information |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|

**Note:** Write-offs should be approved by Director of Finance / PRC / Court, although this may in practice be delegated to the Accounts Receivable Manager by the Director of Finance. Further guidance is available within [PM-3660- How to Raise a write off](#).

## Projects and Grants

Approval routing for projects and grants transactions is different to the standard line manager approval hierarchy in that the approvals initially flow to the research project principal investigator/estates project manager with further approval (if required) following their line manager hierarchy.

Research project principal investigators/Estates project managers may also delegate approval authority for requisitions up to the value of £10,000 to a project team member (minimum grade UE06) allocated to the requisition approver project role on request . If the project requisition transaction value is £10,000 or less the approval will flow to them only.

Project team members allocated to the Project Manager or Requisition Approver roles on a Project must be University of Edinburgh employees.

| Process                | Purchase Requisition  | Change Order                      | Manual purchase invoice exempt invoice (Offline Form)       | Non-trade vendor payments (Offline Form)                                | Accounts Payable Credit Memo                                      | Employee Expenses   | Expense Advances  | Sales Invoice   | Accounts receivable credit Memo (Offline Form) | Refunds                      | Journals (Cost Loader)  | Salary Costing/ Coding Changes (Offline Form 13)  | Timesheets For Research Projects (SharePoint Forms)  |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>Process summary</b> | Initial request to start the purchase to pay process, and to check budget available | Make a change to a purchase order | Manual input and approval of a supplier invoice for payment | Manual input and approval of a payment to a non-trade vendor or student | Allocate a credit from a supplier to the appropriate account code | An employee claiming payment of appropriate personal expenditure in line with the Expenses Policy | Employee request for an advance payment for travel and subsistence expenses | Sales invoice to be generated for customer or student | Apply a credit to a customer's account         | Issue a refund to a customer | Ability to add or move actual, accrued or prepaid costs or income | Changes to the chart of accounts or project coding values and/or percentage split if multiple coding allocations per employee assignment to allow update to labour schedules in the P&M | Timesheet submitted to record time worked on projects which require enhanced timesheet information |

|  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |   |  |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   | Labour Distribution module  |   |
| <b>Impact of process</b>                     | Approval of the requisition creates the financial commitment, reserves the funds and submits the requirement to purchase to Procurement | Approval of the change order creates the financial commitment, reserves the funds and submits the requirement to purchase to Procurement | Approval will allow the payment to be made and the cost allocated to the correct project | Approval will allow the payment to be made and the cost allocated to the correct project | Approval will allow the credit to be allocated to the correct project | Uncommitted cost where approval will allow the actual cost to be allocated to the correct project | Approval allows the expense advance to be paid into the requestor's bank account | Monies due to the university are received and allocated to the correct project | Approval will allow the debit to be allocated to the correct account code | Refund paid into the customer's bank account                                | Actual, accrued or prepaid costs or income transferred to appropriate codes | Changes the budget/project the actual cost is coded to and/or percentage allocation of the total cost | Approved timesheets available for funders and audit purposes where required |
| <b>Initiator (Requestor)</b>                 | Project Team Member who needs to make a purchase  | Project Team Member who initiated the original requisition or Procurement Operations   | Project Team Member who requests payment of invoice (invoice owner)                      | Project Team Member who requests payment (payment owner)                                 | Project Team Member who initiated the original requisition / payment  | Project Team Member   | Project Team Member  | Project Team Member who requests the invoice (sales invoice owner)             | Project Team Member who initiated the original sales invoice              | Triggered by Sales Credit Memo process where original sales invoice is paid | Project Team Member   | Principal Investigator /project manager/ Project Administrator  | Project Team Member   |
| <b>Preparer (Completes request in People</b> | Nominated user with a requisitioning role (may be the requestor)  | Nominated user with a requisitioning role (Requestor or Preparer) or   | Accounts Payable   | Accounts Payable<br><br>Non-trade vendor bulk  | Accounts Payable  | Project Team Member or proxy  | Project Team Member or Proxy   | Edinburgh Research Office  | Edinburgh Research Office   | Accounts Receivable   | Research Grants Section (Finance)   | Research Finance Administrators in Schools and Departments  | Project Team Member or proxy  |

|                         |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |                      |  |   |                                   |  |                        |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|----------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| and Money)              |   | Procurement Operations Buyer   |  | upload – Accounts Payable   |   |   |   |                      |  |   |                                   |  |                        |
| <b>Initial Approver</b> | Principal Investigator/ Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator)<br><br>Where the Principal Investigator / Project Manager has delegated requisition approval authority to a Project Team Member they will be the initial (and only) financial approver for requisitions up to the value of £10k | Approval required where change order value is increased beyond tolerance.<br><br>Principal Investigator /Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator) | Principal Investigator/Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator) | Principal Investigator /Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator)<br><br>Non-Trade vendor Supplier bulk upload – People and Money approval: Principal Investigator /Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator) | Principal Investigator /Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator) | Principal Investigator /Project Manager (or their Line Manager if they are the initiator)<br><br>(Employee approves prior to the Line Manager if the expenses have been submitted by a proxy on their behalf) | Employee's Line Manager<br><br>(Employee approves prior to the Line Manager if the expenses have been submitted by a proxy on their behalf) | No approval required | Credit Memo request form: Principal Investigator/project manager | Approval is via the manual credit memo request form | Research Grants Section (Finance) | Manual Form 13 Approval:<br><br>For employees moving from unrestricted to restricted funding or between projects – PI for the receiving project<br><br>For employees moving from restricted to unrestricted funding – main budget holder (Head of College or Professional Service Group) | Principal Investigator |

|                               |   |  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Further Approval Route</b> | Principal Investigator /Project Manager's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits | Line Manager in Principal Investigator /Project Manager's hierarchy with required job level/approval limit (last approver only - intermediate approvers are omitted from the approval routing) | Principal Investigator /Project Manager's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits | Principal Investigator /Project Manager's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits<br>Bulk upload - People and Money approval - Principal Investigator /Project Manager's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits | Principal Investigator /Project Manager's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits up to minimum job level 3 only regardless of value | Principal Investigator's Line Manager hierarchy based on transaction value and job level approval limits | Final approval by Finance Operations Audit before payment is made                | N/A   | Credit Memo request form - Appropriate line manager based on transaction value and job level approval limits | Approval is via the manual Credit Memo request form    | N/A   | N/A   | N/A  |
| <b>Risk</b>                   | Requisition not approved promptly – delaying project  | Change order not approved promptly – delaying project  | Payment not approved promptly<br><br>Appropriate budget checks not  | Payment not approved promptly<br><br>Appropriate budget checks not   | Credit from supplier not applied promptly to achieve refund.   | Delay in reimbursing staff<br><br>Appropriate budget checks and validation                               | Appropriate budget checks and validation to policy are not completed by approver | Sales invoice issued in error or with incorrect value | Credit memo invoice issued without correct manual  | Refund issued when a further invoice to replace is due | Cost reallocations not processed timely resulting in financial position | Allocation changes are applied without approval | Timesheet evidence unavailable for funders where required may result |

|                   |  |  |  |   |  |   |   |   |  |   |   |  |   |
|-------------------|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|
|                   | Appropriate budget checks not completed – risk of non-compliant spend/overspend  | Appropriate budget checks not completed – risk of non-compliant spend/overspend  | completed by approver resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs  | completed by approver resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs   |  | to policy are not completed by approver resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs                         | resulting in approval of non-compliant spend and/or incorrect allocation of costs   |   | approval of form                       |   | not reported correctly and grant claim is incorrect   |  | in grant payment being withheld.  |
| <b>Mitigation</b> | Preparer able to view approval hierarchy and follow up with relevant approver if delays. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Preparer able to view approval hierarchy and follow up with relevant approver if delays. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Requestor can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Preparer can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Requestor can contact Finance Operations – Accounts Payable team to check approval status. | Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Approver able to reassign approval or 'route task' to add another person as an approver (e.g. budget holder or specialist to check specification) | Credit Memo issued to correct any identified errors | Finance to review approver information | Ensure replacement invoices are submitted at the same time as the sales credit memo request | Project Administrators and Edinburgh Research Office to liaise on cost allocations and ensure processed in advance of claim dates | Guidance on requirements to utilise form approval and trigger to update labour schedules | Project Administrator is aware of funder requirements and monitor that timesheet are recorded timeously |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  | holder or specialist to check specification) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

## Appendix 1 - Job Levels and Financial Approval Limits

A job level determines how much University resource someone can approve in line with the Delegated Authority Schedule (DAS), as outlined in the table below. Every employee within the University must have an appropriate Job level. Further information is available in the [Guide to Job Classifications and Positions](#).

**Job levels and Financial Approval Limits**

*Version 2.6*

| General Ledger / CoA Approvals |   |                         |                                  |                               |                      |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Job Level<br>(i)               | Approver - where defined in<br>Delegated Authority Schedule<br>(DAS)  | Requisition<br>Approval | Manual AP<br>Invoice<br>Approval | AP Credit<br>Memo<br>Approval | Expenses<br>Approval |
| N/A                            | Committee - e.g. University Court   | > £2m                   | > £50k                           | > £2m                         | > £100k              |
| 8                              | Principal   | £2m                     | £50k                             | All values                    | 100k                 |
| 7                              | Head of College<br>Head of Professional Services Groups<br>(CSG/SG/USG)<br>Director of Finance<br>Director of Estates | £1m                     | £50k                             | All values                    | £50k                 |
| 6                              | Head of School/Department<br>Dean of Deanery  | £500k                   | £25k                             | All values                    | £10k                 |
| 5                              | Delegation to these job levels is defined by job<br>within People and Money   | £100k                   | £10k                             | All values                    | £1k                  |
| 4                              |   | £50k                    | £5k                              | All values                    | £500                 |
| 3                              |   | £25k                    | £1k                              | All values                    | £100                 |
| 2                              |   | £10k                    | None                             | None                          | None                 |
| 1                              |   | £2k                     | None                             | None                          | None                 |
| 0                              |   | None                    | None                             | None                          | None                 |

(i) Job levels are not used for one-time payments (e.g. visitor expenses) or AP credit notes - they are approved by the requestor's line manager regardless of value.

| Projects and Grants Approvals |   |                         |                                  |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Job Level<br>(ii)             | Approver  | Requisition<br>Approval | Manual AP<br>Invoice<br>Approval | AP Credit<br>Memo<br>Approval | Expenses<br>Approval |
| N/A                           | Principal Investigator<br>Project Manager (Estates) | £50k                    | £5k                              | All Values                    | £1k                  |
| N/A                           | Project Requisition Approver Role                   | £10k                    | None                             | None                          | None                 |

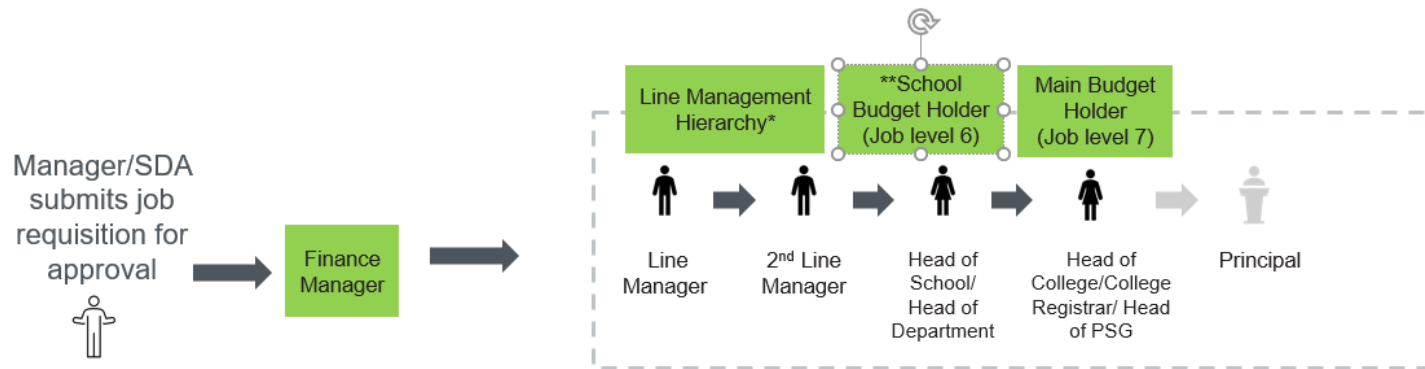
(ii) Projects approval limits are linked to roles in the projects module rather than allocated through job levels. Where a project transaction is above the Principal Investigator/Project Manager approval limit it will be routed to their line manager for approval and refer to the line manager's job level approval limits.

(iii) A principal investigator/project manager/requisition approver can have two approval limits. As well as approval limits assigned through their project role for project transactions they may also have a job level assigned to them which gives them different approval limits for general ledger/CoA transactions



## Appendix 2 – HR and Finance Approval Workflow

### HR approvals - Job Requisitions and Change Assignments

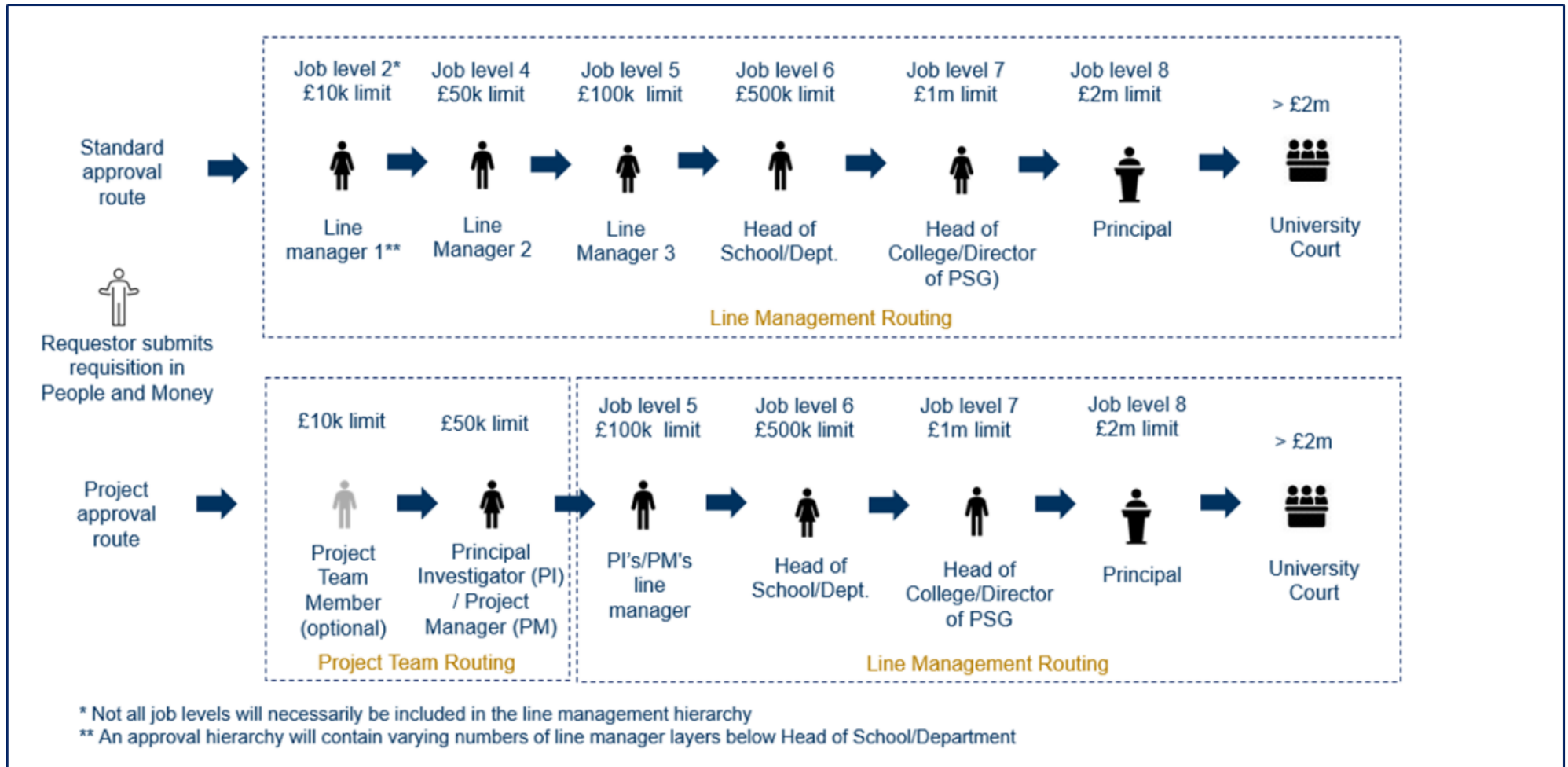


Nb. Issues identified in testing prevented HR phase 1 going live with the agreed approval model. An interim process was adopted with all approvals going to Head of College/Director of PSG with a commitment to move to the agreed approval model at a later date.

\*In many schools/depts. there are more than two layers of line manager below HoS/HoD level

\*\*Some employment approvals will stop at this level in line with the Design Authority agreement e.g. externally funded posts

## Finance Approval Workflow



### Managing Research Salary Costs

If costs related to an assignment are to be charged in part or total to cost centre 30010003 (research salary control account) a research salary management labour schedule in People and Money may need to be created or amended. Please liaise with your school research administration team to provide this information if required. For further information on staff costs on projects, please see the [Research Finances SharePoint](#).

Research Finance Administrators can find more information and guidance on the User Guides page of the [Finance Development Hub](#).

### Appendix 3 - Finance approval workflow routing options

In addition to delegation set up through vacation period functionality described above, other approval routing options are available to the approver at the transaction approval stage for requisitions, staff expenses etc. These approval routing options may be used where it would be appropriate for someone other than, or in addition to, the requestor's line manager to approve the transaction.

| Approval Routing Actions | Functionality  | Recommendation for use  |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Reassign                 | Reassigns approval task but not approval level to another user.<br>After approval by the assignee, the approval workflow follows the assignee's hierarchy if further approval is required.   | Where approval needs to be completed by a specific budget holder and then their line manager hierarchy. |
| Route Task               | Approve and add an additional approver to the approval workflow (directly after current approver)<br>After approval by the additional approver the approval workflow returns to the original approval hierarchy if further approval is required. | Adding a budget holder or interested person into the approval hierarchy.                                |

## Appendix 4 - HR approval scenarios and final approvers

| Approval Scenario   | Posts  | Main Budget Holder<br>(Level 7) | School/ Department<br>Budget Holder<br>(Level 6) |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Additional allowances</b>  | Allowances such as: acting up, on-call, out of hours, etc.   |                                 | *  |
| <b>Change of salary code</b>  | Change of Salary Costing from Restricted fund segments to Unrestricted fund segments irrespective of the amount.                                   | *                               |  |
| <b>Chair appointments</b>   | Follows normal approval but has additional step of approval to Principal.*   | *                               |  |
| <b>Clinical posts</b>   | Any clinical professorial post.  | *                               |  |
| <b>Envelope submissions</b>   | All new Envelope Submissions* (or increases to existing Envelope Submissions)  | *                               |  |
| <b>Envelope submissions</b>   | Individual vacancies where an Envelope Submission has been approved (unless to increase the size of the envelope)                                  |                                 | *  |
| <b>Extension to contract<br/>(&gt; 6 months)</b>  | Extensions of Internally funded Fixed Term Contract roles where there is an additional internal cost.  | *                               |  |
| <b>Extension to contract<br/>(&lt; 6 months, including any<br/>previous extensions)</b> | Extensions of Internally funded Fixed Term Contract roles where there is an additional internal cost.  |                                 | *  |
| <b>Externally funded posts</b>  | Roles that do not have a financial implication for the full duration of the commitment .i.e. externally funded posts.                              |                                 | *  |
| <b>Fixed Term Contracts to<br/>Open Ended Contract<br/>conversions</b>                  | All transfers from Fixed Term to Open-ended status irrespective of funding source  | *                               |  |
| <b>Guaranteed hours<br/>envelope *</b>  | All new Guaranteed Hours Envelope Submissions* (or increases to existing Envelope Submissions)   | *                               |  |
| <b>Temporary absence cover</b>  | Any maternity cover (or other equivalent leave) which have internally funded financial implications for any part of the duration of the commitment | *                               |  |
| <b>UE10 posts</b>   | Any UE10 academic, professional or support post.   | *                               |  |
| <b>Increase in hours</b>  | Increase in hours where there is an additional internal cost.  | *                               |  |



|  |   |             |   |
|--|---|-------------|---|
| <b>(Increase is for &gt; 10 hrs per week or more for 6 months or more).</b>            |   |             |   |
| <b>Increase in hours (Increase is &lt;10 hours per week or for less than 6 months)</b> | Increase in hours where there is an additional internal cost.   |             | * |
| <b>Increase of salary contributions (&gt; 10% increase)</b>                            | Increase of internal funding salary contribution where there is an additional internal cost   | *           |   |
| <b>Increase of salary contributions (&lt; 10% increase)</b>                            | Increase of internal funding salary contribution where there is an additional internal cost.  |             | * |
| <b>New post (&gt; 6 months)</b>  | Any new posts to be filled which has internally funded financial implications for any part of the duration of the commitment.   | *           |   |
| <b>New post (&lt; 6 months)</b>  | Any new posts to be filled which has internally funded financial implications for any part of the duration of the commitment.   |             | * |
| <b>Position management</b>   | New posts arising from departmental reorganisations or restructuring.   | *           |   |
| <b>Promotions</b>  | Promotions with post holder in place<br>Note: Approval process is primarily through structured committee governance.  | *(see Note) |   |
| <b>Re-gradings</b>   | Re-gradings with post holder(s) in place<br>Note: Approval process is primarily through structured committee governance.  | *(see Note) |   |
| <b>Replacement post</b>  | Internally funded non-like for like replacements of posts.  | *           |   |
| <b>Replacement post</b>  | Internally funded like-for-like replacements of posts.  | *           |   |
| <b>Secondments</b>   | Any secondment roles which have internally funded financial implications for any part of the duration of the commitment   | *           |   |
| <b>Splitting of a position into fractions or job shares</b>                            | May or may not have a financial implication but will increase the number of positions in a school/ department   | *           |   |
| <b>Student experience envelope *</b>   | All new Student Experience Envelope Submissions* (or increases to existing Envelope Submissions) e.g. for Students employed in designated 'Student Experience' posts (J fixed term reason code) and 'Employed' posts (D fixed term code) roles. The contract should last no longer than the successful candidate's period of study* |             | * |
| <b>Temporary absence cover</b>   | Sickness or other absence cover which have internally funded financial implications for any part of the duration of the commitment  | *           |   |

