University Research Ethics Committee

Terms of Reference

i. To be responsible for keeping under review and monitoring the implementation of the University Research Ethics Policy, and for sustaining a University-wide awareness of research governance issues.

ii. To develop policy and guidelines with and for the Faculties in relation to ethical and related issues.

iii. To advise Faculty Ethics Committees on procedures or on ethical issues, including concerns that relate to a particular study or other matter and, where necessary, to adjudicate upon such matters.

iv. With the consent of the Dean involved, to designate particular Faculty Ethics Committees as being responsible institutionally for developing best practice and acting as the lead committee for certain categories of project.

v. To receive reports from each Faculty Ethics Committee as appropriate, including an annual report.

vi. To ensure that members of the University Executive Committee and of Faculty Ethics Committees have received, or will receive, appropriate training in ethical matters.

vii. To report to the appropriate bodies within the University.

Membership

• Chair - The Vice-President with the Research portfolio (or other senior officer to be appointed on the recommendation of the President and Vice-Chancellor)

• The Vice-President with the Research portfolio (if not the Chair)

• Academic Registrar

• A representative of Research and Innovation Services

• The Chair of each Faculty Ethics Committee:
  • Faculty of Arts and Humanities
  • Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences
  • Faculty of Environmental and Life Sciences
  • Faculty of Medicine
  • Faculty of Social Sciences

• A senior academic with relevant experience, for example, in ethics or as a member of a lead NHS research ethics committee (REC) outwith the University, appointed by the Chair of UREC

• The President of the Students' Union (or a representative of the Students' Union)