

8. INTERNAL HEALTHCHECKS AND MONITORING

The University carries out regular research ethics and governance “Healthchecks” across the institution. The Healthcheck is an exercise designed to provide light-touch monitoring of the research governance arrangements in place at local levels. It is coordinated centrally by the Ethics Advisory Group and every School is involved. The Healthcheck is intended to identify existing good practice and to highlight any local weaknesses in the University’s current research ethics and governance arrangements.

The Ethics Advisory Group has responsibility for monitoring research governance arrangements in place within each School, including the level of activity carried out by the respective ethical review Boards. This usually takes the form of regular reporting to the University Research Committee by the Dean for Academic Research Partnerships & Research.

The University Research Committee is also required to regularly monitor changes to the external research governance landscape, a task frequently delegated to the Ethics Advisory Group. This includes amendments to the requirements and expectations of funding bodies and updates to changes to any legislative requirements. It also involves reacting to any sector wide standards which may be released, such as the UUK Concordat to Support Research Integrity, and ensuring that the University is compliant, where applicable.