



University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow

University Ethics Committee

Ethics review at the University of Strathclyde

The aim of ethics review is to protect the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of participants, who are a valuable part of the research process and not merely a means of accessing data, while remaining sensitive to the needs of researchers. However, ethics review also helps to protect the researcher. By obtaining ethics approval the researcher is demonstrating that they have adhered to the accepted ethical standards of a genuine research study.

It is generally accepted that funders such as Research Councils will not provide financial support for relevant research that does not have ethics approval. Many publications will also no longer accept for publication results of research conducted without ethics approval.

Below is brief advice on:

- The types of research that require ethics approval.
- The ethical review process and how to apply.

Detailed information is available on the University Ethics Committee webpage:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/researchknowledgeexchangeservices/universityethicscommittee/> or by emailing ethics@strath.ac.uk.

All research involving human participants, their data or tissue, requires ethics approval, either from the University or an external body such as the NHS. Investigations involving vulnerable participants and/or invasive or potentially distressing methodology are likely to require UEC review.

Ethics and sponsorship approval are required before any such investigation can start. This includes recruitment activity.

Ethics approval is required for:

- all investigations conducted by University staff and students involving human beings, whether for research, teaching, student projects, or other educational purposes, and using any type of research methodology;
- all investigations conducted on University property, through the University, or under the auspices of the University (including on sites external to the University and involving investigators from outside the University), that involve human beings as participants, including investigations which have been transferred from other organisations;
- collaborative investigations involving human participants carried out by University staff and students working with investigators who are not staff or students of the University, including data analysis where the data has been obtained by a collaborating body.

Ethics approval is also required for use of secondary data if these include personal data,

and under certain circumstances, is required for data relating to deceased human subjects.

Details of the procedures by which the University makes ethical judgements can be found in the Code of Practice on Investigations Involving Human Beings.:

www.strath.ac.uk/media/ps/rkes/Code_of_Practice_eighth_Feb17.pdf

Procedures for ethics applications for investigations involving human beings:

Submission to University Ethics Committee (UEC) - please see page 13 of the Code of Practice on Investigations Involving Human Beings:

www.strath.ac.uk/media/ps/rkes/Code_of_Practice_eighth_Feb17.pdf for details of UEC review criteria.

