

Sheffield Hallam University's Commitment to the Concordat to Support Research Integrity

Responsibilities of Heads of Departments and Directors of Research Centres

Background: The Concordat to Support Research Integrity was developed in collaboration with the Funding and Research Councils, Wellcome Trust and various government departments, seeking to provide a comprehensive national framework for good research conduct and governance. The Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) requires institutions eligible to receive HEFCE research funding to demonstrate compliance with the concordat annually. This has been made a condition of receiving HEFCE funds specified in institutions' funding agreements including the income from the REF. The University response to the **Concordat to Support Research Integrity** can be found at <https://www.shu.ac.uk/research/ethics-integrity-and-practice/integrity-concordat>

As part of the university's commitment to the Concordat the following responsibilities fall upon Directors of Research Centres and HoDs who manage research active staff.

You are required to:

- ensure an up-to-date understanding of the University's ethics policy and procedures
- ensure that policies relating to research ethics and research integrity are implemented
- promote a local culture of rigour and integrity in research
- have an up-to-date knowledge of University and relevant funder policy
- promote compliance with all ethical and legal standards and all grant conditions for all research under your management
- encourage staff to update their skills in aspects of research ethics and integrity as part of the appraisal process
- ensure researchers are provided with guidance for their career development, reinforced through staff appraisal
- ensure at dedicated points of contact staff receive recognition in work plans for their roles
- ensure that researchers are aware of their responsibilities and the standards expected of them
- to provide support, mentoring and developmental opportunities for researchers
- report any observed instance of what appears to be research misconduct

Training resources can be accessed via

<https://portal.shu.ac.uk/sites/acpd/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Professor Ann Macaskill, Head of Research Ethics, February 2018.