The Social Care Research Ethics Committee

Obtaining Ethics Committee Approval from Social Care REC

Barbara Cuddon
Co-ordinator
- Sources of Social Care Research Ethics Review
- The Remit of the Social Care REC
- Application Process
Role of the Co-ordinator

- Process applications
- Arrange and service all meetings
- Respond to researchers
- Support Chair and Committee
- Work with NRES
- Advice and support
Main Sources of Social Care Research Ethics Review

- NRES RECs of which the Social Care REC is one
- University-based Committees (URECs)
- Other systems e.g. Local councils and research funders
Social Care REC

- Specialist REC
- 16 Members
- Membership reflects the social care context
- Social Care REC complements, does NOT replace, other RECs
- Meets monthly
Social Care REC Reviews

- Adult social care research study proposals
- Intergenerational studies involving adults and children or families
- Social care research that involves people lacking capacity in England and Wales which requires approval under the Mental Capacity Act 2005
Social Care REC Reviews

- Social care studies funded by Department of Health e.g. NIHR School for Social Care Research
- Own account’ research undertaken by Councils with social services responsibilities, where the Chief Investigator and/or sponsor feels there are substantial ethical issues.
Social Care REC Reviews

- Social care databases

- Studies taking place in NHS settings with NHS patients where the approach uses social science or qualitative methods, provided that the research does not involve any change in treatment or clinical practice
Social Care REC Reviews

- Studies of integrated services (health and social care), provided that there is no clinical intervention involved

- Studies not suitable for review by other NRES RECs, e.g. service user-led research
Application process

- Online IRAS System – www.myresearchproject.org.uk
Sources of Support

- www.myresearchproject.org.uk
- www.nres.nhs.uk
- www.screc.org.uk
Top Tips

- Reserve a place
- Filter questions
- Answer all the questions
- Lay language
Top Tips

- Supporting documentation e.g. Information Sheets and Consent Forms
- Complete the checklist
- Title of document, version number and date
Quick Guide for Submitting Applications to the Social Care Research Ethics Committee

1. Researcher goes to [www.myresearchproject.org.uk](http://www.myresearchproject.org.uk) and completes online IRAS form.

2. Researcher phones the Co-ordinator to book in the application.

3. Researchers submits the IRAS form and supporting documentation direct to the Co-ordinator asap after booking.
Application received by the Social Care REC Co-ordinator
(60 day clock starts)

Co-ordinator validates application (5 working days)

Invalid application – Researcher asked to modify and resubmit

Valid Application – Chief Investigator invited to Social Care REC meeting, or to be available by phone

Co-ordinator sends out agenda and studies to be reviewed to the Social Care REC by post (10 days before the meeting)

social care institute for excellence
Application reviewed by the Social Care REC

No opinion – SCREC seeks advice from specialist referee
(60 day clock does not stop)

Favourable Opinion
(Within 60 days)

Provisional opinion
(60 day clock stops)

Unfavourable opinion
(within 60 days)

Modify application
(60 day clock restarts)

Modification reviewed by Chair or Sub-committee

Modify and resubmit

Appeal

RESEARCHER STARTS RESEARCH
Other Approvals

- ADASS Research Group
- NHS R&D Approval
- Local Authority Research Governance Approval [www.researchregister.org.uk/governance.asp](http://www.researchregister.org.uk/governance.asp)
- Other management permission
Further Information and Help

- Barbara Cuddon
- Social Care REC Co-ordinator
- Email: screc@scie.org.uk
- www.screc.org.uk
- www.scie.org.uk