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 Research Policy Committee 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.

At local levels, monitoring arrangements are in place as required, and by way of good practice. For example, the Institute of Applied Health Sciences has a Monitoring and Audit Group (MAGI) which aims to review relevant research processes with a view to assuring their quality and rigour, and identifying any issues which require to be addressed. The level and amount of monitoring is reflective of the types of research undertaken in different areas. (check with Juliette Snow)

The Research Policy Committee also 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 by the Research Policy Committee College Directors of Research.

The Research Policy Committee is also required to regularly monitor changes to the external research governance landscape. 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.