Annual Statement on Research Integrity 2020

Background

Following its initial publication in 2012, a revised version of <u>The Concordat to Support Research</u> Integrity was published in October 2019 by Universities UK. The revised

An online version of the University's Ethical Quick Test for staff and doctoral student research was introduced in August 2018, replacing the previous paper version, and is available through the Research Support website. Initial results indicated that engagement with this process was minimal. However, completion is now a requirement for research funding applications (since March 2020) which has improved engagement. Demonstrations of the online ethics system have also included a reminder of the Quick Test process.

Process for dealing with allegations of research misconduct

The Research Misconduct Policy is available on the University's website and through the Policy Gateway. This Policy ensures that dealing with allegations of misconduct is transparent, timely, robust and fair. Informal advice on research integrity is available through the Research Governance Officer in the Research Office and formal reporting of allegations of misconduct is made directly to the PVC(R) or Chief Operating Officer following discussions with the School's AD(R) and Dean as appropriate.

Statement on formal research misconduct investigations

There had been one formal investigation of alleged research misconduct by a research student or a member of staff during 2019. This allegation was not upheld.

Statement on what was learned from formal investigations

A thorough review of the misconduct policy would be conducted once UKRIO release their updated guidance in response to the revised Concordat.