Guidance for external researchers wishing to carry out research at the University of Stirling on our students or staff

To ensure integrity and safeguard the interests of researchers, participants and funders, all research conducted at or through the University of Stirling by members of staff, students and collaborators is subject to ethical scrutiny prior to the commencement of the research.

Where researchers external to the University and affiliated to another Higher Education Institution wish to carry out research on campus on our students or staff, from a specific Faculty, they should:

• Complete the ethics process from their own institution (provided that this ethical review process is comparable to that of the University of Stirling review process);
• Contact the Dean of Faculty for permission to approach the students;
• Provide to the relevant cross-Faculty Research Ethics Committee; General University Ethics Panel (GUEP – guep@stir.ac.uk) or NHS, Invasive or Clinical Research (NICR – nicr@stir.ac.uk) copies of the ethical approval granted by their institution’s ethics review panel and a copy of the permission granted by the Dean of Faculty; and
• Wait for confirmation from GUEP or NICR that these approvals have been received before commencing the research.

Where researchers external to the University and affiliated to another Higher Education Institution wish to carry out research on campus on our environment, staff or students in general they should:

• Complete the ethics process from their own institution;
• Contact the Deputy Principal for Research for permission to carry out research on the University of Stirling campus – environment, staff or students;
• Provide to the relevant cross-Faculty Research Ethics Committee; General University Ethics Panel (GUEP – guep@stir.ac.uk) or NHS, Invasive or Clinical Research (NICR – nicr@stir.ac.uk) copies of the ethical approval granted by their institution’s ethics review panel and a copy of the permission granted by the Deputy Principal for Research; and
• Wait for confirmation from GUEP or NICR that these approvals have been received before commencing the research.
Where an individual or company external to the University and not affiliated to another Higher Education Institution wishes to carry out research on campus on our environment, staff or students in general they should:

• Complete the ethics process from their own institution – if there is one;
• Contact the Deputy Principal for Research for permission in principle to carry out research on the University of Stirling campus – environment, staff or students;
• Apply to the relevant cross-Faculty Research Ethics Committee; General University Ethics Panel (GUEP – guep@stir.ac.uk) or NHS, Invasive or Clinical Research (NICR – nicr@stir.ac.uk) for ethical approval attaching copies of the in principle permission granted by the Deputy Principal for Research and their public liability insurance; and
• Wait for ethical approval from GUEP or NICR before commencing the research.

Rachel Beaton, Research Policy Officer, Research & Innovation Services Rachel.beaton@stir.ac.uk