

## **Research Governance Framework: *Resource Pack for Social Care (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)*: Background and revisions**

This edition replaces the First Edition, (produced in 2005) and reflects some of the changes which have taken place since the Research Governance Framework was initiated – most notably, the separation of children’s and adult social care services; the establishment of the Social Care Research Ethics Committee (SCREC); and the impact of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

A draft version of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition was originally circulated in draft form at a series of Research Governance Workshops run in 2008 by Chris Russell. The final version revises this draft in the following ways:

- **Sponsor forewords** (pp iii-v)
- **Chapter 2: What Councils Should do...**  
Submitting records of approved research to the Research Register is a recommendation rather than a requirement (p9, para. 2)
- **Chapter 3: Questions and Answers**  
Answers to some questions have been modified:
  - What about research conducted by students? (p16)
  - Can a Local Authority Act as a Sponsor...? (p18)
  - What if Research has already been given independent ethical and/or scientific approval? (p19)
- **Chapter 4: Responsibilities and Processes** (pp23-29)  
This chapter has been significantly modified from the earlier (draft) version, which was called ‘Approving Research Proposals’.
- **Chapter 6: Examples of Local RGF Systems**  
NEW example added (section 6.5): Birmingham City Council / Northamptonshire County Council (pp54-56)
- **Chapter 7: The Organisational Context**  
Section 7.2 on the Research Register for Social Care (p62) has been simplified, on the basis that current information is available on the website [www.researchregister.org](http://www.researchregister.org)  
Section 7.3 on Ethics Review of social care research (p62) has also been simplified to reflect the existence of the Social Care Research Ethics Committee (SCREC).
- **Chapter 8: The Legislative Context**  
Section 8.4 on the Mental Capacity Act (pp 68-74) has been re-written in accordance with the Fact Sheet for Social Scientists.
- **Annex 6: Securing Ethics Approval – NEW - the ‘Route Map’** (pp106-111)