**Faculty Research Ethics Committee Code of Practice**

The members of the Committee (FREC) wish to encourage applicants to be at ease when they attend FREC. The members of FREC will ensure that applicants are treated with courtesy and respect; that applicants will be treated fairly and equitably. The members of FREC expect simple, clear and honest answers to questions – but acknowledge that there are a range of answers and opinions about best ethical practice.

The members of FREC will ensure that meetings are welcoming, supportive and a constructive environment for open discussions and decision-making. The members of FREC will ensure they respect each other and recognise that they may have differences of opinions on research ethics that may not be resolved.

There is no hierarchy of opinion in FREC, but the Chair will be responsible for controlling the agenda and making sure discussions are timely and fair. The Chair will be responsible for ensuring fair decisions are made.

Applicants will be invited to attend FREC to discuss their research.

Local Research Ethics Co-ordinators (LRECs) will be invited to attend every meeting of FREC.

Updated May 2014