Loughborough University

Ethics Committee

Origin: **Steve Rothberg**

Subject: **Agenda Items for Ethics Committee 2013/14**

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Executive Summary: In preparing the Ethical Policy Framework during 10/11, a number of issues were raised which Ethics Committee identified as priorities for action. The majority of these issues have now been addressed

Action Required: To note progress with the items identified for action and to consider whether there are any other activities to be brought forward for attention

Issues previously identified for urgent consideration:

- Staff wanted to know how to be involved with ethics committee and its sub-committees. How should we publicise the framework, the statement of ethical principles and the introduction of ethics committee internally?
- ➢ Progress: The Ethical Policy framework is available on the University website from http://www.lboro.ac.uk/committees/ethics/
  - o The publication of the Ethics Committee papers on the University website has been completed
- Should our ethical procedures and /or the statement of ethical principles be made publicly available?
- ➢ Progress: The Ethical Policy Framework is published on the website and is publicly available
- Following the drafting of the Framework should an update of the individual sections be requested from their owners? A specific request was made to include something on attribution of authorship in the research section.
- ➢ Progress: it has been agreed that the sections should be update annually and the first review has been undertaken.

The issue of the attribution of authorship has been addressed.

Other Issues for consideration:

- Can simple approvals processes be introduced for routine activities where there is engagement with people rather than experimentation using them e.g. field trips (Geography) and life drawing (Arts)?What staff and researcher training should be introduced?
- ➢ Following a review of procedures it is proposed that the 'Ethical Quick test' from The Ethical Policy Framework would address the issues raised and that a bespoke checklist would not be necessary.
- Should we select certain existing activities or partnerships for ethical scrutiny?
- ➢ Progress: Research with Military applications is being addressed
- How should our ethical procedures be applied to campus activity that is not academic e.g. athlete testing?
- ➢ Progress: The issue of athlete testing has been addressed.
- Should we / how would we cover the private interests of members of the university community e.g. academics doing private consultancy / with second careers, lay members outside interests?
- ➢ Progress: This has been addressed via the declaration of interests pro forma

Members may be aware of additional issues which might also be considered at future meetings.

On-going Matters:

Consultancy request from Chandigarh. To note that this proposal is still under active consideration.