

CUMBERLAND COUNCIL'S RESEARCH GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK SUMMARY

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PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

Cumberland Council's Research Governance Framework helps ensure that research is necessary, ethical, well-planned, and beneficial for everyone involved. It supports staff in gathering evidence safely and conducting reliable research that can guide policies and decisions. The framework sets clear guidelines and standards to ensure high-quality research and minimize risks.

UK CONCORDAT FOR RESEARCH INTEGRITY PRINCIPLES

We commit to maintaining high standards of honesty, transparency, accountability, care, and respect. Research will follow ethical, legal, and professional guidelines. We promote a research culture based on integrity, good governance, and staff development. We will address any research misconduct fairly and openly. We work with other organizations to improve research integrity and regularly review progress.

CUMBERLAND COUNCIL PRINCIPLES

- We encourage community involvement in research, ensuring everyone benefits and gains skills.
- Being open and transparent.
- An inclusive view of evidence and research. We value all types of evidence and methods, focusing on what best answers the research question.
- Staff development in research skills is supported for career growth.

EVIDENCE GATHERING PROTOCOL

- Stage 1: Registering Your Idea
- Stage Two: Writing your Research Proposal
- Stage Three: Applying for Wider Ethical approval
- Stage Four: Conducting your Project
- Stage Five: Completing your Project

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Cumberland Council is committed to the active engagement of its community in evidence gathering of all kinds. This includes community members:

- Taking part in evidence gathering as participants
- Supporting Council staff with the design, delivery, analysis and dissemination of evidence as co-researchers
- Leading the design, delivery, analysis and dissemination of evidence with Council staff as co-researchers.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, view our full research plan and research governance framework on our website www.cumberland.gov.uk/hdrc or Cumbria Observatory www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk. You can also email us at hdrc@cumberland.gov.uk