University of Birmingham
Research Integrity Statement 2015 –2016

Introduction
This is the University of Birmingham’s third annual summary statement on research integrity, as recommended by the Universities UK Concordat to Support Research Integrity. The Concordat outlines the responsibilities and commitments of stakeholders in UK research with respect to research integrity. All members of Universities UK are signatories to the Concordat and HEFCE and Research Councils UK have both made commitment to the Concordat a condition of funding. This statement has been reviewed and approved by Council, the governing body of the University.

Activities to Support Research Integrity
The University is committed to strengthening the integrity of research and reviewing progress on this regularly and openly. The University Executive Board (UEB) sponsor for research integrity is Professor Tim Softley, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and Knowledge Transfer). This report updates on the following actions, which have been undertaken throughout the 2014–2015 academic year following on from the UEB review to support and strengthen understanding and application of research integrity issues, and which are ongoing:

- **Review and Revise the University’s Code of Practice for Research**
  The Code of Practice for Research details the University’s expectations of researchers with respect to ethics and integrity, forms part of their terms and conditions of employment. A detailed review of the code was undertaken in the 2014–2015 academic year, and consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken in the 2015–2016 academic year. The revised Code of Practice for Research was approved by University Executive Board on 12 September 2016 and will be presented to Council on 30th November 2016.

- **Research Governance, Ethics and Integrity Committee (RGEIC)**
  The RGEIC was newly formed in 2015–2016 year to replace the Research Governance and Ethics Group, and is now the committee responsible for the oversight of the conduct of research at the University. The new committee includes representatives of the University’s research ethics and oversight committees as well as representatives from each college with senior responsibility for research. The membership of the new committee strengthens the leadership of research governance and integrity, and ensures that those with formal responsibility for research are directly involved in high level decision making.

- **Participation in Russell Group Research Integrity Group**
  The University of Birmingham is an active contributor to meetings of Russell Group Universities aiming to develop common approaches to research integrity.
Research Misconduct Hearings
In the period October 2015 to September 2016, there have been 2 formal hearings of cases of alleged research misconduct. These cases were dealt with in accordance with the research code of practice and the University’s ordinances and appropriate and proportionate actions taken.

Research Integrity Statement 2016-17
The next annual statement will be published in November 2017.

Further Information
Further information on research integrity at the University is available from Dr Sean Jennings, Research Governance and Ethics Manager (s.jennings@bham.ac.uk Ext. 58011).