

University Research Ethics Appeals process

An application for review is normally considered by a Central University Research Ethics Committee; or by one of the Research Ethics Committees within a Faculty.

If an application is rejected, or the conditions required are unacceptable to the applicant for sound research reasons, the applicant may appeal against the decision of the review Committee.

An appeal against a decision of a Research Ethics Committee within a Faculty needs to be made in writing, through the Research Ethics and Integrity team (ethics@liverpool.ac.uk) who will forward the application to the relevant Central University Research Ethics Committee Chair.

The Chair will refer the project to the relevant Central University Research Ethics Committee, who will consider it (less the Chair of the Committee from which the appeal is made, if they are a member).

If the appeal is against a decision of one of the Central University Research Ethics Committees, the Research Ethics and Integrity team (ethics@liverpool.ac.uk) will forward the application to the Chair of the Committee on Research Ethics within 2 weeks of the communication of the original decision.

An appeal against a decision of one of the Central University Research Ethics Committees must be supported by the relevant Faculty Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Impact.

Dependent on the timing of the next scheduled meeting of the Committee, a special sub-group of the Committee may be formed. If a special sub-group is to be formed, this must comprise the Chair of the Committee on Research Ethics, the Chairs of the other Central level Committees and the Chair of the Research Governance Committee or their nominated delegates.

The appeal will normally be heard within 2 weeks of the receipt of the written appeal. The applicant will be invited to attend, with another member of University staff if they wish, to present their case.

The appeal will consider the matters raised by the first review, but is not bound by those matters and may raise additional matters.

If the appeal is unsuccessful, there is no provision for any further appeal relating to this application.