

**The Research  
Governance  
Framework for Health  
and Social Care**

**SSRG/SEARIG  
Conference  
Brighton**

**14<sup>th</sup> October 2003**

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# RGF – Overview

- **Origins**
- **Purpose – what's it for?**
- **Issues**
- **West Sussex**

# Origins

- **Alder Hey scandal**
- **Originally intended for Health**
- **Concerns about the implications for Social Care Research**

# Purpose

- **To establish principles of good practice in H&SC research**
- **To protect participants from risk**
- **Drive up standards and reduce variation in quality**
- **Encourage and sustain a research culture**

# Issues

- **Definition of research – who and what is covered?**
- **Timescales for health and social care**
- **Differentiation between governance and ethical review**
- **Two tier research?**

# West Sussex

- **Seen as an opportunity to**
  - **Promote a research culture**
  - **Develop evidence informed decision making**
  - **Encourage the professionalisation of research**
- **Were proactive in**
  - **Joining DoH working group**
  - **Helping develop baseline assessment forms for social care**
  - **Took part in case study exercise**
  - **Implementing in March 2003**

# What's been happening!

## Includes:

- Projects funded from outside the dept
- Projects carried out by staff
- BV review work
- Any interviews/surveys with users/staff
- Case file audits
- Student projects
- Does not include routine management information

- **All staff got leaflet with March payslip**
- **Managers meetings attended**
- **All communication lines covered e.g. Team Talk/Social Scene**
- **Links to Corporate Research made**
- **Regional links made through SEARIG**
- **Research in Practice links made**
- **Synergy with REAL Teams and Organisational Support pilots**

- **Quiet at first**
- **Research Panel been meeting since July**
- **Process issues being raised**
  - **All information is on our intranet but form needs to be available for filling out on line**
  - **People putting line manager down as research supervisor with no research experience**
  - **Diagram is actually a routing and risk is determined at initial reading of application**
  - **As an output from the process people get a critical and a recommended list**
  - **Lot of paperwork needed to complete the process**
  - **Approved work goes onto a database – currently intranet**

# Applications

- **Assessment under the Mental Health Act – uncovering emotional contexts and consequences**
- **Integrated Services Project – young people’s views**
- **Families perceptions of major adaptations undertaken in their homes**
- **Direct payments for the parents of disabled children**
- **Family resource team – service evaluation**

- **Consultation under the Best Value Review of older people programme**
- **Clinical depression – men speaking about their experience of therapy**
- **Evaluation of “Pathways to Work” and “Steps”**
- **Evaluation of “Action on Mentoring” Project**
- **Towards an understanding and measurement of knowledge creation and transfer in the public sector**

- **Stability in Child Placement – University of York**
- **Research Utilisation and the Social Care workforce – University of St Andrews**
- **Homecare – pilot consultation with staff and users under National Minimum Standards Framework**
- **Pilot study of adult resource centre**
- **Family centre managers evaluation**
- **20 – 25 student projects arriving before end of month**

# What next?

- **Continue to refine process**
- **Get online application set up**
- **Develop corporate internet pages and link in database**
- **Work to develop regional aspects of ethics**
- **Develop follow up and monitoring systems**
- **Develop risk matrix**
- **Links with health**
- **Have a holiday!!!!**

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