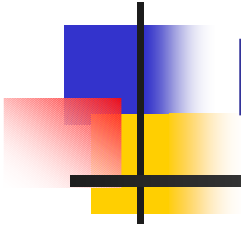


ETHICS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCIAL CARE:

PLANS AND IMPLICATIONS





PLANS FOR SOCIAL CARE RESEARCH ETHICS REVIEW

- **Following extensive consultation, the decision was made to set up a new national Social Care REC (SCREC)**
- **Operating within the framework of the National Research Ethics Service (NRES) but based at the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)**



SETTING UP THE SCREC

- **Professor David Stanley appointed as chair of the Advisory Group**
- **Barbara Cuddon appointed as first Co-ordinator**
- **15 members (from 80 applicants) appointed to the SCREC**
- **Induction and training of members now completed**



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- **The SCREC will meet around ten times per year**
- **Research applications will use revised versions of NRES forms; decisions to be made within 60 days**
- **Committee to be an ‘appropriate body’ under the Mental Capacity Act**

WHAT RESEARCH WILL GO TO THE SCREC?



- **Research on adults (not children)**
- **DH-commissioned social care research**
- **Research involving people covered under the Mental Capacity Act**
- **Studies involving more than one UK country**



WHAT RESEARCH WILL GO TO THE SCREC (cont) ?

- **Research where investigators do not have access to an ethics review system**
- **Council research with substantial ethical issues**
- **Studies involving integrated health and social care services**



WHAT NEXT?

- **Inaugural meeting of national Social Care REC scheduled for 5 June 2009**
- For further information see:
<http://www.scie.org.uk/networks/screc>



SOME IMPLICATIONS

- **No investigator should have to seek approval from more than one REC**
- **Problems with definition of ‘research’ and ‘social care’?**
- **Unknown workload for the SCREC?**
- **Problems in reconciling realities of research with theories of ethics?**