

Information on IRAS

The following is some basic information for those unfamiliar with the IRAS system

IRAS (Integrated Research Application System) is an integrated system for preparing applications to review bodies for social care and healthcare across the UK. The system is designed to minimise duplication across applications to different organisations. Wherever possible IRAS asks broad questions that could apply to a wide range of circumstances, rather than producing variations of questions for different review bodies.

As IRAS is an integrated system for a wide range of types of research, some questions that you will need to answer may include references to participants or organisations not relevant to social care research. For example, projects for review by the Social Care REC are more likely to involve service users, carers or members of the public rather than patients. Please interpret all questions in relation to the context that is relevant to your project.

The first two pages of the IRAS form act as a screen to establish the type of research involved, so that the correct version of the form can be generated. The Social Care Research Ethics Committee application form can be called up by checking the box at item 4: this form should be used for all applications to the social Care REC.