

Annual statement on research integrity

Section 1: Key contact information

Question	Response
1A. Name of organisation	University of Worcester

1B. Type of organisation:

higher education
institution/industry/independent
research performing
organisation/other (please
state)



2C. Reflections on progress and plans for future developments
<p>The University has made significant progress in developing its policies, processes and systems in support of research integrity. It also has dedicated staff in place to support research integrity. It provides a strong suite of training and support around ethics and research integrity.</p> <p>Where we have work to do is in raising the profile of research integrity amongst our researchers. We aim therefore to hold "Research Integrity" week in Spring 2024 which will be a series of lectures, seminars and workshops for researchers on this topic. We will further evaluate staff understanding of research integrity through our review of our new Research Integrity Policy in 2023.</p>

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Section 3: Addressing research misconduct

3A. Statement on processes that the organisation has in place for dealing with allegations of misconduct

The University has long had in place procedures for investigating allegations of research misconduct aligned with the UKRIO processes. The University approved a new policy for investigating research misconduct allegations for 2022/23 which builds on the former procedures.

The University identifies a named contact (and an alternative contact) on its external and internal research integrity webpages for any individual who has any concerns with the conduct of research undertaken by staff or students at the University. Individuals may raise general concerns or may choose to make a formal allegation which may then be subject to investigation.

There were zero allegations of research misconduct submitted to the contacts or received through other mechanisms in 2022/23 and there were zero investigations of research misconduct undertaken in 2022/23. Whilst the University is pleased in principle that no allegations of research misconduct have been received, it is also conscious that this may potentially be a reflection of individuals not always being aware of mechanisms to report such allegations or of individuals not feeling sufficiently empowered or knowledgeable to make such allegations. As highlighted in last year's report, all paperwork associated with research (e.g. participant information sheets) were updated to ensure that it clearly highlights our processes in this area.

3B. Information on investigations of research misconduct that have been undertaken				
Type of allegation	Number of allegations			
	Number of allegations reported to the organisation	Number of formal investigations	Number upheld in part after formal investigation	Number upheld in full after formal investigation
Fabrication	0	0		