# Lothian Clinical Academic Research Pathways Partnership

# First Steps into Research Gateway Award

# Research Development Objectives

These objectives are for guidance for the candidate and their mentor and do not constitute a formal assessment. Not all learning opportunities will be available in the setting for the First Steps Gateway Award.

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|  | Initial if covered | |
|  | **Candidate** | Mentor |
| **Professional/Ethical Practice** |  |  |
| Undertake Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Training[[1]](#footnote-1) and discuss the application of GCP principles to the study |  |  |
| Demonstrate practice that accords with Good Clinical Practice for Research and professional codes. |  |  |
| Gain an understanding of NHS Research Ethics (IRAS), academic and NHS organisational ethics and governance approval processes.  *Where relevant review the existing ethical applications for the study and discuss with the research team* |  |  |
| Identify and discuss the application of ethical issues related to undertaking research in general and the issues related to the specific project.  *Discuss how these issues have been identified and addressed in the research protocol and governance approvals.* |  |  |
| Gain insights into consent procedures associated with research  *Review consent processes for the specific study and, where relevant, discuss how ongoing consent is assessed.* |  |  |

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|  | Initial if covered | |
|  | Candidate | Mentor |
| **Research Practice** |  |  |
| Understand the process by which research studies are developed, leading to the development of a proposal and protocol*With reference to the specific study, this may include discussions on collaboration, patient and public involvement (PPI), formulation of research aims and objectives; development of research questions.* |  |  |
| Be aware of the key funders of health and social care research including their different funding streams *In addition to exploring key funders (e.g. CSO, NIHR, charities), discuss the experience of securing funding for the specific study* |  |  |
| Review and discuss the key elements of a research proposal/protocol and how these apply in practice to the specific study |  |  |
| Where possible participate in the assessment of participant’s eligibility to participate in specific studies as per study protocol |  |  |
| Become familiar with the study data, including outcome measures, and how these relate to answering the research questions  *Explore issues relating to reliability and validity of data collection for the study* |  |  |
| Participate, under appropriate supervision, in data collection activities *Discuss the rationale for different data collection approaches and their choice for the specific study* |  |  |
| Where appropriate, participate in the documentation of data, understanding the need for accurate, clear and timely records to be made |  |  |
| Observe and participate in any data analysis |  |  |
| Observe the work of any relevant steering and advisory groups associated with the research study |  |  |
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|  | Initial if covered | |
|  | Candidate | Mentor |
| Research Management: where appropriate, observe and discuss activities including: |  |  |
| Management of research budgets and resources |  |  |
| Data management activities |  |  |
| Risk management activities |  |  |
| Monitoring study timelines |  |  |
| Developing and monitoring of standard operating procedures |  |  |
| Dissemination of research activity and findings |  |  |
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| **Manage own research development** |  |  |
| Identify and negotiate specific learning needs and objectives associated with the First Steps Opportunity |  |  |
| Develop a personal development plan of experience and learning in order to achieve desired research learning outcomes |  |  |
| Explore own ambitions for clinical academic research career development and funding opportunities |  |  |
| Review the Vitae Researcher Development Framework and discuss relevance to stage of own career and for career aspirations [Researcher-Development-Framework-RDF-Vitae.pdf](file:///C:\Users\juliet.macarthur\Downloads\Researcher-Development-Framework-RDF-Vitae.pdf) |  |  |
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| Other (please add in any additional) |  |  |
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**Feedback**

**Interim Feedback half way through**

Mentor reflections

Candidate Reflections

**Signature of Mentor Date:**

**Signature of Candidate Date**

**Final evaluation of progress and experience**

Student reflections

**Signature of Mentor Date:**

**Signature of Candidate Date:**

1. Routes for undertaking GCP training will be provided e.g. Edinburgh Clinical Research Facility, NIHR Learn [↑](#footnote-ref-1)