



## Note on research ethics and data sharing

To avoid duplication of research ethics approval processes for Agile/Integrator research projects involving human participants and multiple institutions we recommend the following approach:

- The ethics approval process should be followed at the university or research organisation that is *leading on the recruitment and management of the participants* for a given study, irrespective of whether this organisation is the overall lead of the research project. As a rule of thumb, the ethics approval process at the host organisation of researchers leading the recruitment and management of participants is likely needed to be followed.
- For studies involving research activities with participants at several universities or research organisations, separate ethics approval processes are likely needed, depending on the rules of the organisation involved.
- The ethics approval process at universities should, where appropriate, be made use of to specify data sharing arrangements for the proposed project.
- Care should be taken to check whether additional collaboration agreements between organisations may be needed, and if so this should be reflected in project proposals.
- For studies involving more complex ethics processes such as NHS ethics this should be carefully planned for and reflected in project proposals.
- Where research data is envisioned to be shared with/by industrial partners this is likely to require additional planning and paperwork and should be planned for in advance and reflected on in project proposals.