

## UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology: Research integrity 2022

The UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology's [values](#) set out the way we want to work together, across UKCEH and with our partners: Excellence, Integrity and Teamwork. Integrity focuses on maintaining the highest standards of research and professional ethics and impartiality. This is underpinned by UKCEH core expectations to:

- Reach conclusions based on robust and ethical scientific and professional practice.
- Follow UKCEH policies and procedures and lead colleagues to do so.
- Seek good value for money, complying with financial policies and procedures.
- Be open and transparent about reasons for decisions and in undertaking activities.
- Recognise appropriately the contributions of others.
- Develop and maintain professional relationships with stakeholders and customers representing UKCEH appropriately and respecting diversity and cultural difference.
- Disclose and actively manage any conflicts of interest, maintaining ethical standards.

UKCEH is a signatory of the [Concordat to Support Research Integrity](#), a national framework for good research conduct and its governance. An annual Research Integrity statement is incorporated and published in UKCEH's [Annual Report & Accounts](#) following approval by the Board of Trustee Directors.

The Director of Impact & Innovation, Dr Nick J. Wells, is the organisational lead for Research Integrity, a member of Executive and Science Boards. The first point of contact to raise issues regarding research integrity is Dr Wells ([nwells@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:nwells@ceh.ac.uk)) or through the UKCEH [Complaints Procedure](#).

### Open research

Our research is independent, objective and transparent, thus UKCEH is committed to making our scientific infrastructures, data, models and publications accessible. This is supported through mentoring, training, our core expectations and the requirement for all projects to implement a data, sample and model management plan.

UKCEH follows UKRI and other funder open access policies, striving for all our publications to be Open Access. Peer reviewed journal publications are made available through publishers or through post-prints in the [NERC Open Research Archive \(NORA\)](#). In relation to data, UKCEH applies the UKRI's Concordat on Open Research Data, NERC Data Policy and the FAIR Data Principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable), across its Data and Records Centres. Access to UKCEH scientific infrastructures is detailed [here](#).

### Research ethics

UKCEH and our researchers must ensure that research is conducted ethically and follows appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards, limiting possible risk to all those involved or affected by the research. UKCEH's Research Ethics Policy encompasses research involving animals, human participants, personal data, human tissue, or research where outputs will directly influence policy or operational usage that will affect humans.

### Responsible use of research excellence metrics

UKCEH is a signatory to the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#). We commit to use bibliometric indicators responsibly and appropriately. This is particularly important in the context of reviewing individual researcher outputs, as well as wider research assessment exercises.