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UWE REC REF No: FET.20.10.009

20th November 2020

David Western

Dear David

Application title: Supportive Surveillance? Co-design of automated timely interventions to enhance treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) – User survey

Thank you for responding to the conditions raised in my letter to you of 17th November 2020.

I can now confirm full ethics approval for your project, but please note the proviso below.

Please note: In light of the current situation regarding COVID-19, we can only authorise an immediate start for activities that do not breach either national laws or University policies (for further information please click on the following link <https://intranet.uwe.ac.uk/tasks-guides/Guide/research-and-enterprise-covid-19-information#part1>). In these uncertain times, law and policy may change swiftly and frequently.

We are, however, continuing to scrutinise and grant ethical approval for activities that cannot take place at present, to ensure that once the situation changes and activities can go ahead, the research is not unnecessarily delayed.

What this means for your application:

1. If your application DOES NOT involve activities affected by the current crisis (e.g. online surveys or telephone interviews etc.) then you may start your research as soon as you receive this formal notification of your ethical approval;
2. If your application DOES involve activities affected by the current crisis then you must not start your research until you are lawfully and safely able to do so, and when it does not breach the University's policies. This will affect the dates you have supplied on your application form in relation to start and finish. When you have new dates, please can you write to us in order that we can add this information to your file.

The following standard conditions apply to all research given ethical approval by a UWE Research Ethics Committee:

1. You must notify the relevant UWE Research Ethics Committee in advance if you wish to make significant amendments to the original application: these include any changes to the study protocol which have an ethical dimension. Please note that any changes approved by an external research ethics committee must also be communicated to the relevant UWE committee.
2. You must notify the Research Ethics Sub-Committee (formerly UREC) if you terminate your research before completion.
3. You must notify the Research Ethics Sub-Committee if there are any serious events or developments in the research that have an ethical dimension.

Please note: The RESC is required to monitor and audit the ethical conduct of research involving human participants, data and tissue conducted by academic staff, students and researchers. Your project may be selected for audit from the research projects submitted to and approved by the RESC and its committees.

We wish you well with your research.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Studley', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr Matthew Studley
Chair, Faculty Research Ethics Committee

c.c. (supervisor, where applicable)