

Local Rules for the Use of Ionising Radiation

Status and Scope

These Local Rules and Management System form part of the University's Health and Safety Policy. The term 'Local Rules' will be used to cover the requirements for written instructions from the employer as required by The Ionising Radiations Regulations 2017 (IRR17); The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 (EPR16), The Ionising Radiation Medical Exposure Regulations 2017 (IR(ME)R17) and the Carriage of Dangerous Goods Regulations (CGDR 2009), if transport is required.

These 'Local Rules' are the arrangements for the safe acquisition, use, keeping, disposal, transfer and transport of radioactive substances and arrangements for the safe use of X-rays. These have been produced by the Ionising Radiation Protection Sub-Group and approved by the University Health and Safety Group.

The Health and Safety Policy expresses Council's commitment to a supportive, safe and healthy work environment for all. The University's mission and values also express our commitment to environmental sustainability and meeting our social responsibilities. As such, it is essential that we minimise the impact of our work with radioactive materials on the environment. These Local Rules therefore also set out the University's arrangements for ensuring that we employ the best practicable means to minimise the use and disposal of radioisotopes.

Legislation requires the University to produce Local Rules for the use of ionising radiation and for the acquisition, keeping, disposal, transfer and transport of radioactive substances. The Rules apply not only within the University premises but for field work conducted by University employees, students and visitors. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Environment Agency (EA) enforce legislation relating to radiation. They have the power to prosecute individuals, as well as the University, if breaches of the legislation occur. Further details of regulatory requirements can be found in *Section 1: Regulatory Aspects*.

All staff and students working with ionising radiation are required to observe the Local Rules. If there is any failure to observe the Local Rules, the employee and/or student concerned will be de-registered and approval to use ionising radiation withdrawn until they have received further training as required by the UIRPO.

The Radiation Protection Adviser (RPA) and Departmental Ionising Radiation Protection Supervisors (DIRPS) are appointed under the Regulations. The University Ionising Radiation Protection Officer (UIRPO) is appointed by the University to assist in the discharge of the duties placed on the University by legislation. Further information on their roles can be found in *Section 3a: Roles and Responsibilities*

For the purposes of these Local Rules ionising radiation is deemed to cover the use, acquisition, keeping, disposal, transfer and transport of:

- Open Sources (Unsealed Sources, Isotopes)
- Closed Sources (Sealed Sources)
- X-Rays and X-Ray Generators used for academic research and teaching
- Instrumentation containing radioactive sources e.g. scintillation counters and GLC instruments
- Rare earths
- Any equipment, compound or substance emitting ionising radiation