



## Governance

Solid foundations for effective innovation and adoption

### Governance: a definition

Governance is "the system by which an organisation directs and controls its functions and relates to its stakeholders" HM Treasury

In other words, the way in which organisations manage their business, determine strategy & objectives and go about achieving these objectives.

### Risk

All change and innovation present risk. Acceptable levels of risk can vary according to the situation. Through control and mitigation of risk, for instance, using a risk log, potential problems can be understood, and mitigation measures put in place.

### Intellectual Property

Intellectual property rights may apply to innovations you develop or those you are considering adopting. Consideration should be given to preventing inappropriate exploitation of developments and ensuring that the intellectual property of others is respected when evaluating proposals for adoption. Licensing may apply, which can have resourcing implications.

### Information Governance

Information Governance is a framework which supports how organisations and individuals manage the handling of information. It applies to sensitive and personal information of employees, patients and service users, and to information related to the business of the organisation. It sets the standards for managing all information and provides the tools to achieve this.

### Due Diligence

Due diligence is exercising reasonable care and caution when undertaking work, procuring goods or contracting services. This will involve obtaining and using relevant and reliable information allowing compliance with legal, professional and other regulatory requirements.

## Accessing Support

Many organisations have specialists in the different aspects of governance, who may be able to offer you advice and support. Where there is potential for patenting urgently seek specialist advice.

