The Confirmation Review

Your confirmation review takes place just before the one-year anniversary of your registration. You will be required to submit a portfolio of work, comprising:

1. A total of approximately 10,000-15,000 words, which may be the equivalent of one chapter or may consist of two or three shorter pieces. This should contain the following elements:
   a. an account of the research context in which the project sits
   b. a clear research question, or set of research questions
   c. a description of the methodology and data for the study, which may include a pilot study
2. A synopsis of the thesis chapter structure (300-500 words).
3. A summary of DDP training to date, with a synopsis of how this helped develop you as a researcher (100 words).
4. An account of relevant extra-curricular activities, for example conference attendance, seminar papers (100 words).
5. Ethics approval, if required.

You will pass the confirmation review if the reviewers can answer the following questions in the affirmative:

1. Does the project promise to make an original contribution to knowledge?
2. Are the research questions clearly identified and intellectually challenging?
3. Is there a clear understanding of the relevant theoretical or methodological approaches to the primary material?
4. Does the candidate demonstrate adequate command of the skills (analytic, linguistic, technical) the project demands?
5. Are the necessary resources available in Sheffield? If not, then is there any advice or support that we can offer about how to access those resources?
6. Is completion feasible within the timeframe?

If they are not, you will have a second attempt six months later.