



Get Involved in Research

Building Research Capacity in Adult Social Care

Summary of the project:

The project in Kent is one of six national social care capacity building partnerships and will contribute to the substantially growing national attention to issues around social care. This is funded by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The project started June 2021 and will run for 4 years. The project aims to develop and embed a research culture in social care. The project will be delivered with a number of partners including University of Kent and Kent County Council.

Role description

We are looking for 8-9 members of the public with lived experience of social care, who can contribute to this project by bringing an independent view from the perspective of the general public. Research experience isn't necessary! Training and support will be provided throughout the project. Interested members of the public will be invited to form a group to share their views and discuss the following key aspects of the project:

- Informing research priorities for Kent Adult Social Care
- Contributing to interest groups coming together to share ideas and evidence of best practice
- Providing input to the research projects
- Reviewing and contributing to partnership funding applications
- Assisting with evaluation elements of the overall project and support wider communication

Once the working group has been established, we will jointly agree on the values and principles that underpin it and how the group will be involved. Members of the working group will shape and agree how meetings will be managed throughout the duration of the project.

Your responsibilities:

- We ask that you share your views and experiences as a member of the public from your personal experience of social care to help inform this project
- You do not have to attend all meetings. You are free to attend one, some or all meetings or just take part by e-mail/phone.
- You will always be given adequate time to review any project documentation and given clear timeframes for any comments needed.
- Preparation for meetings will be minimal, however, there may be some documents to read to prepare for each meeting. The time involved in preparation for meetings will be 30-60 minutes maximum.

- The group will be a place to share experiences and views openly. Therefore, a policy of any views expressed will be confidential and not shared outside the group.

Our responsibilities:

- The project team will provide all information needed to help you input into the project.
- We do not expect you to commit to every meeting or task and will always ensure adequate time is given for any meeting preparation or task.
- The project team will keep any views and experiences shared in strict confidence. Any meeting notes will not refer to the views of individual members.
- Provide training and support if required.

Payment and expenses:

- As a member of the group, you will be paid per hour for attending meetings or commenting on documents.
- Reasonable standard class travel expenses will be reimbursed by the project. A claim form will be provided at each meeting. Original receipts will be requested as proof of expenses.
- You will remain responsible for the payment of all relevant taxes and responsible for declaring the income to any relevant authorities as a result of input into the project.

Contact details:

If you are interested in helping us with the project, please contact either of the below team members.



Georgina Walton, Senior project manager, Adult Social Care, Kent County Council.

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John Potts, Co-applicant for the project jointly responsible for Public Involvement and Engagement

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