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Towers, Ann-Marie and Potts, John (2021) *Public involvement in research.*In: Webinar to support applications for the following funding call: Transforming care and health at home and enabling independence, 16th September 2021, UK. (Unpublished)

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Public Involvement in research

Ann-Marie Towers, Reader, University of Kent John Potts, lay co-applicant, Kent.











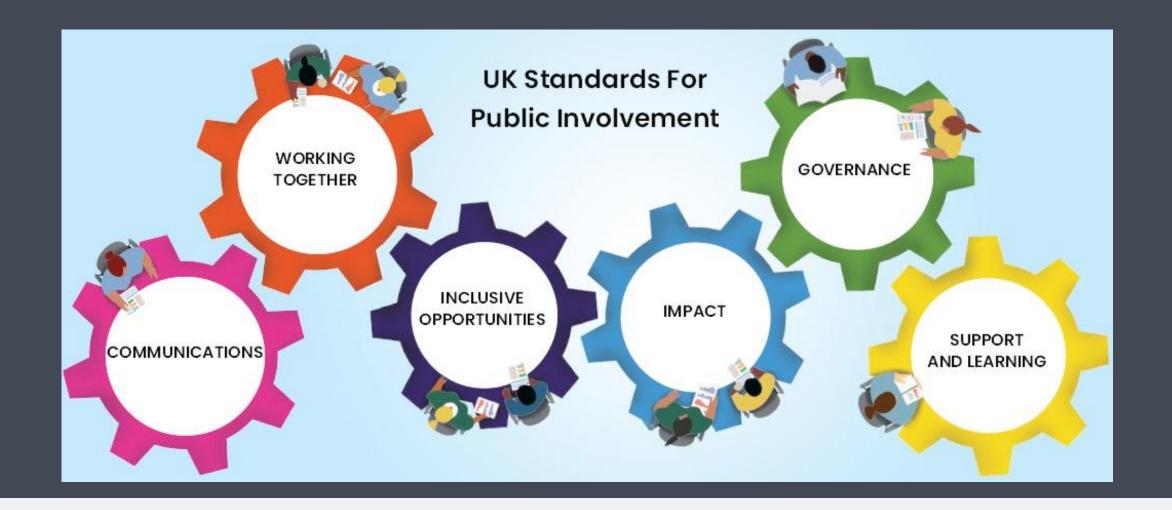






Familiarise yourself with the principles

- NIHR defines public involvement in research as being carried out WITH or BY members of the public (not to/about/for them).
- **Involvement** is sometimes confused with:
 - **Engagement** (dissemination and raising awareness of research or its findings).
 - Participation (requires consent and ethical approval).
- See: NIHR Briefing notes for researchers
- https://www.nihr.ac.uk/documents/briefing-notes-forresearchers-public-involvement-in-nhs-health-and-social-careresearch/27371



National Standards

• Copied from the UK Standards for Public Involvement (10/9/21) https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/pi-standards/home

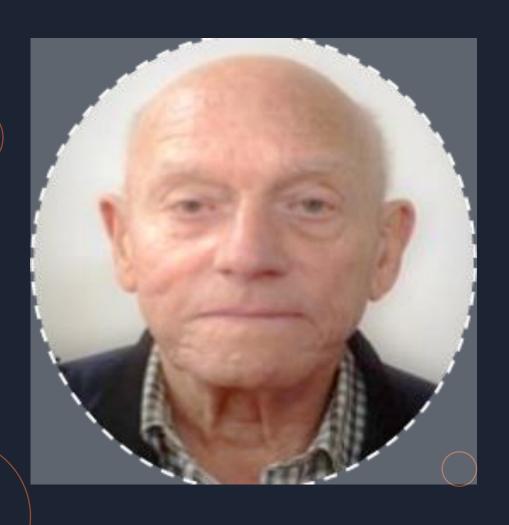


Case Study

- 4-year programme of work
- Funded by NIHR HS&DR
- Aims to build capacity in social care research.
- Four work packages
- Large team
- See project webpage for more information:
- https://www.pssru.ac.uk/kascp/



Public involvement in our study



- Lay co-applicant Mr John Potts
 - Identify and prioritise the aims and objectives of the partnership.
 - Draft and review the Plain English Summary.
 - Gain support for from other public groups.
 - Respond to panel and peer review comments.
 - Co-lead PPI Working Group with Gina Walton (KCC)....

PPI Working Group

- 8-10 people with lived experience of adult social care:
 - People using services
 - Informal carers
 - Volunteers/retired care workers
- The group will
 - Help agree strategic research priorities for the partnership priority setting.
 - Consult on themes and activities regarding Communities of Practice.
 - Review fellowship pilot projects and partnership funding applications.
 - Opportunities for co-research within funded projects.
 - Support wider dissemination.

All working group members will be paid by Kent County Council for their time at INVOLVE rates (£150 per day or £75 per half day).

Study Steering Committee

- Three people with lived experience
 - 2 informal carers of people who have used social care
 - 1 person using social care services.
- All steering committee members will be paid by University of Kent for their time at INVOLVE rates (£150 per day or £75 per half day).

Training and Support

- Innovation Delivery Team at KCC testing new training scheme with Health Education England.
 - Blends insights from leadership psychology and communication with techniques used by professional performers.
- 1-day training course can help Public Involvement representatives feel more confident in multi-stakeholder meetings and events.

Types of involvement

- Identifying and prioritising
 - From proposal stage
 - Through communities of practice.
- Developing funding applications
 - Review applications and have opportunities to be co-applicants.
- Managing and undertaking research
 - Study Steering Committee (managing)
 - Opportunities for co-research (undertaking).
- Evaluating the research
 - One working group member will be involved in evaluation of the programme.
- Dissemination and impact
 - Invited to contribute to outputs, presentations, write blogs, speak at events....

My experiences of being involved

- Already had strong networks with the sector:
 - Adult Social Care People's Panel
 - Chair of the Patient and Public Advisory Group (Kent and Medway Strategic Transformation Project)
- Invited to the first meeting by Gina Walton, KCC.
- Complete access to every stage of the process.
- Given time to participate in a comprehensive manner.
- Appointed as a member of the study's Senior Management Group and joint lead of the PPI Working Group.

Top Tips

Researchers

- Ensure you have sufficient time to involve people properly.
- Involve people in every stage (not just 'here's a summary').
- Listen to and value the advice public co-applicants/advisors give you.
- Support your public involvement representatives (training/pre-meetings).
- Recognise and value involvement by paying people for their time.

Public involvement representatives

- Be confident in your views and experience.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Challenge the research team and make sure you fully understand the issues.
- Use your networks and personal experience.

• NIHR Funding and Disclaimer
This study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) (19/117). The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.

Thank you

For more information or to get involved please contact the Kent Research Partnership team

Contact details

Ann-Marie Towers (A.Towers@kent.ac.uk)

