

Research Involvement Newsletter

March 2025



Welcome to our spring 2025 PPI newsletter!

Spring has sprung and we are all looking forward to lighter nights, warmer days and – of course – lots of exciting research and activities to get involved in!

We are delighted that our new **CHSS PPI Strategy** has been approved by Management. A summary of its ‘five main themes’ will soon be added to the website.

CHSS Director, Professor Lisa Dikomitis moves next month to a new role at the University of Warwick. Always a passionate advocate of Community Engagement and PPI, we wish her all the best. **Professor Lindsay Forbes and Dr Ferhana Hashem** take over as joint Directors.

Thank you for your continued commitment to PPI and making research better for everyone.

Amanda, Helen and Ellie

Research Involvement Group (RIG)

Recently, our members were offered the chance to be involved in research through several activities.

These included joining an online group discussion around improving adult social care services and reviewing Plain English Research Summaries.

See the next page for more about this and other updates!



CHSS
University of Kent

Training for PPI

We offer sessions throughout the year on various topics. **Look out for an email coming soon about a new training session in May.**



Our CHSS researcher-led session on Creative Methods

in January introduced innovative arts-based methods of data collection, analysis and reporting.

Those attending fed back positively: *"very enjoyable; engaging and insightful"*.

News, events, involvement opportunities

Social Care Discussion

Dr Serena Vicario organised a discussion in December with some of our involvement members, around improving social care services in England. Serena said it was *'constructive, sharp, and insightful. Although the discussion was online, the contributions fostered a genuine, meaningful human connection. Thank you for your generous input— I look forward to future opportunities to connect again!'*

New study to improve dementia care at home

Researchers from NIHR Applied Research Collaborations across several areas including Kent Surrey and Sussex, are developing a digital platform to match care workers with people living with dementia based on preferences.

Funded by the Alzheimer's Society and NIHR, the project aims to improve care quality. Get involved in focus groups and co-design workshops!

[Read more](#) and get in touch
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WHAT IF...
SCHEDULING DOMICILIARY CARE COULD BE EASIER AND BETTER MATCHED TO THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA?
...and you helped shape it?

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP!
Workshops will start in April 2025

Help us design a new digital platform matching care preferences and availability!
Your time is valuable, and we will compensate you accordingly.

We are looking for people living with dementia at home and their families/friends, as well as domiciliary care workers and managers.

<https://tinyurl.com/personalising> c.poyner@bham.ac.uk

The University of Kent is here to serve its communities. More information on our webpages: [University of Kent Public and Community Engagement information](#)