

COReC

Research Involvement Newsletter



Care and Outcomes Research Centre

July 2026



Welcome to the July Newsletter



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Our Kent students have left the campus for their summer break, leaving University of Kent and University of Greenwich colleagues busily preparing for the new student intake and the University merger in August.

Our Universities will become a 'super-university' called the 'London and South East University Group' (LASE). The full announcement can be found [here](#).

For COReC, we remain committed and active in our research. For the NIHR Quality, Safety and Outcomes Policy Research Unit, we are completing some of our Phase 1 projects, ready for the 2nd Phase of projects. For one of our projects, you will find details in this newsletter about the interim report into Martha's Rule in Action – An Independent Evaluation.

You will also find a link in this newsletter to a blog from the [CONNECTing Pensions, Health and Care](#) Research team.

As always, if you have any updates or news, please feel free to send to me for wider circulation. To note, in addition to emailing the COReC PPIE newsletter to research advisors associated with COReC, I shall be placing this and previous editions on the COReC website for improved accessibility.

Take care and I hope you have a good summer,

Sarah



NIHR Policy Research Unit in Quality, Safety and Outcomes of Health and Social Care

The NIHR QSO PRU team have launched their first Newsletter, which is available [here](#). If you would like to be involved in the next edition, please get in contact.



Martha's Rule in Action: An Independent Evaluation

A new independent evaluation from the [NIHR QSO PRU](#) offers an in-depth look at how [Martha's Rule](#) is being introduced across NHS acute hospitals and the key facilitators and barriers that help or hinder implementation and the experiences of patients, families and healthcare staff.

Conducted between November 2024 and February 2026, the study brings together a detailed case study across three NHS Acute Trusts, a national public survey, and a review of existing evidence.

The interim report is now available, revealing key insights into what's working, where challenges remain and valuable learning opportunities for future rollout and patient safety policy. Importantly, the findings have already helped shape national guidance, including the development of [Martha's Rule core standards](#).

The final report is due this summer — but you can explore the early findings now by downloading the report: <https://yqsr.org/the-formative-evaluation-of-the-implementation-of-marthas-rule-interim-report/>.



Taking a long view of long-term care

[Lavinia Mitton](#), a Senior Lecturer in Social Policy at the University of Kent, has written an article about the separation of health and social care in the UK following the second world war.

This is linked to the [Nuffield CONNECTing Pensions, Health and Care](#) research, led by the University of Kent.

This research brings together policymakers, researchers and practitioners to discuss retirement funding, healthcare and long-term care systems to study the impact of different approaches on diverse population groups.



Tears of sadness fall at the end of an era

Source: Herne Bay Gazette, 9 January, 1987 (KM Group)

Read the Full Article [Here!](#)



CONNECTing Pensions, Health and Care
Research Project - [LinkedIn](#)

News, Webinars and Bulletins

- NCCPE [Inclusion work](#) – How can we make public engagement more racially equitable in practice?
- Health Research Authority Public Involvement Newsletters ([May Edition & further links](#))
- [Review](#) of SCIE Co-production week (July)

Acronyms & Links



COReC

Care and Outcomes Research Centre

NCCPE

National Co-ordinating Centre for Public Engagement

NIHR

National Institute for Health and Care Research

NIHR QSO PRU

Policy Research Unit in Quality, Safety & Outcomes of Health and Social Care

PPIE

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement

SCIE

Social Care Institute for Excellence