

NEW TO PPIE? HOW TO 'HIT THE GROUND RUNNING' AT CLAHRC WESSEX; *Introduction to PPIE for new PPI contributors*

The CLAHRC Wessex view:

[CLAHRC Wessex](#) supports applied health research aimed specifically at '*improving the health of the people of Wessex, and the quality and cost-effectiveness of health care*'. Patient and Public Involvement Engagement (PPIE) is central to everything we do - a compulsory element of our research that ensures our work remains relevant to the people it is designed to serve.

It is really important to us, that our registered PPI members not only recognise the importance of their contributions to our work, but also how to 'hit the ground running' when recruited to a project. Their views add so much that is of value to our researchers - but to many the 'world' of applied health research will feel unfamiliar, even daunting.

What is this document?

This brief digital '*Introduction to PPIE for new PPI contributors*' is designed to support new PPI contributors at CLAHRC Wessex - whether they have just joined the organisation, or are an established member just recruited to one of our research projects. Rather than attempting to 'reinvent the wheel', it signposts to existing external resources towards affording this support. It should also be regarded as a dynamic document - the PPI Coordinator will edit it / add to it as useful material is published or comes to light.

Applied health research at CLAHRC Wessex

Whilst we deliver and disseminate research across a broad range of different health-related areas, our projects typically require PPI consultation in similar ways, and at similar junctures in the research cycle. Click on the link below to see a visual representation of the typical project lifecycle at CLAHRC Wessex, with the associated PPI/researcher involvement throughout:

https://www.clahrc-wessex.nihr.ac.uk/img/pdfs/Project_Lifecycle_visual_v2.pdf

Beyond that which is contained in this document, the CLAHRC Wessex '[Welcome Pack](#)' (which newer members will have received when they joined) and our [PPI webpage](#) also afford an insight into PPIE here, and how we ensure strategic embedding at an organisational level. We would recommend all member of the PPI community with us take a few minutes to look at these resources.

Resources:

Established over 20 years ago (1996) [INVOLVE](#) are funded by the [National Institute for Health Research](#) (NIHR), and are the national authority on PPIE. The organisation has compiled some useful information for people just getting started with PPIE. A wider search of the INVOLVE [website](#) is recommended for those with an interest, but we have detailed below some of the links of particular relevance to this document:

1	'What is public involvement in research?'	http://www.invo.org.uk/posttypesource/what-is-public-involvement-in-research/
2	'Public Involvement in Research' video	http://www.invo.org.uk/find-out-more/what-is-public-involvement-in-research-2/what-is-public-involvement-in-research/
3	'Why involve members of the public in research?'	http://www.invo.org.uk/posttypesource/why-should-members-of-the-public-be-involved-in-research/
4	Find out more about people's stories and experiences of being involved in research, by viewing a series of videos from www.healthtalk.org	http://www.healthtalk.org/peoples-experiences/medical-research/patient-and-public-involvement-research/topics
5	Like what you see? Interested in branching out? Visit the People in Research website for NHS PPIE opportunities beyond CLAHRC Wessex	https://www.peopleinresearch.org/

INVOLVE also offer some more specific advice regards how “members of the public can make a difference to health and social care research”:

- Making sure that researchers ask the **right questions** and in a way that the public understand.
- Keeping the research **on track**, so that it stays relevant.
- Making sure the **people being researched** are approached in the right way.
- Improving the **quality** of the research by adding another point of view to the design and conduct.

The NIHR ‘Starting Out’ Guidance

Published in 2017, the NIHR ‘Starting Out’ Guidance was authored by Amander Wellings (an [INVOLVE Advisory Group](#) member) and [Martin Lodemore](#) (INVOLVE Coordination Centre), with support from Claire Ballinger (Wessex PIN), Abi Dennington-Price ([PPIRes](#)), Norfolk members of the INVOLVE Advisory Group (in particular Joyce Fox and Una Rennard), and members of the Induction Subgroup of the INVOLVE Learning and Development project, led by Anne Price.

The Guidance sets out “*essential information for members of the public getting started in active involvement in research*”, and is promoted as of use “*for members of the public new to involvement in research, or as part of an induction package for public contributors*”.

The guidance may be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/2HZ7ptK>

Other sources of support and learning to help support PPI contributors:

The PPI Coordinator retains and publishes relevant information on the PPI webpage (<https://www.clahrc-wessex.nihr.ac.uk/patient-and-public-involvement>) as it is discovered / published. See below for an easy-to-reference summary:

- Our quarterly newsletters (‘CQ’) provide regular updates from each of the themes at CLAHRC Wessex, and are a useful reference point for new PPI contributors whether they are trying to understand a specific project better, or just trying to orientate themselves with our work: <https://bit.ly/2Fzclrl>
- We promote learning and development opportunities as we learn of them here: <https://bit.ly/2FzTaM0>

- Our 'Jargon Buster' may help new members with any confusing accronyms or terminology: <https://bit.ly/2HgW3l0>
- We are proud to promote PPIE affiliated websites, organisations and work - and are happy to receive suggestions for additional organisations, Guidance, documents or work which our members or partners feel should be included: <https://bit.ly/2wofLp5>
- Existing members may change their membership preferences at any time via this link: <https://bit.ly/2Giwa72>
- Members are also able to instantly unsubscribe from the programme if they wish: <https://bit.ly/2Giwa72>

CHANGES AND / OR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

If you would like to suggest that any material is added to this induction document or if you have questions not answered by the links provided please contact the NIHR CLAHRC Wessex PPI Office by email (CLAHRC-WessexPPI@soton.ac.uk) or by telephone (02380 598211) and we will do our best to help.