



National Institute for
Health Research

What is the Research Design Service?

Research Design Service (RDS) North West

Kenneth Finlayson – Research Associate (UCLan)

Role of the Research Design Service

“To increase the number and proportion of high quality applications for funding ...”

“of clear relevance to NHS services, clinicians and users”

www.rds.nihr.ac.uk



Purpose of the Research Design Service

- The Research Design Service (RDS) provides advice on research design to researchers who are developing proposals for national, peer-reviewed funding competitions for applied health or social care research.
- RDS helps people design and develop high quality research proposals.

Funding stream examples

- The RDS provides advice on research design to researchers who are developing proposals for national, peer-reviewed funding competitions for **applied health or social care research**.
- NIHR.
- MRC.
- ESRC/EPSRC.
- Charities.
- Etc.

RDS North West (RDS NW) expertise

- Methodology including:
 - statistics
 - health economics
 - qualitative
 - health psychology & behaviour change
 - research synthesis
 - and specialist methodologies.
- Specific application advice for schemes.
- Public involvement (PI).

See www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk/about-us/expertise-a-z for more examples

Support we offer

- Face to face meetings, email and phone.
- Developing suitable research questions.
- Getting into scope for the funding stream.
- Research design.
- Developing collaboration: 'building a dream team.'
- Advice on research methods and analysis.
- Public Involvement Fund, up to £350.
- Critical read-through of your proposal.
- Come to us early!

What happens when you contact the RDS NW

Depending on your needs you may be:

- provided with information on first contact with the service
- directed to our online resources for information
- directed to another source of help
- eligible for our advice service if you are looking for support with proposal development to apply for funding from a national open peer-reviewed competition scheme.

Research Design Service North West



- Home
- Research design
- Funding
- Public involvement
- Resources and events
- Our clients
- Case studies
- About us

FOLLOW:

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Research Design Service North West

Providing design and methodological support to health and social care researchers in the North West of England to develop grant applications to the NIHR and other open national peer-reviewed funding programmes.

[Request advice](#)

- Latest RDS NW videos
- Video: RDS NW How we provide you with advice
 - Video: RDS NW Grant Writing expertise
 - Video: RDS NW Health Psychology expertise
 - Video: RDS NW Mixed Methods expertise

Tweets by @NIHR_RDS

NIHR RDS Retweeted

NIHR Research

RDS Residential Grant Development and Writing Retreat, 10 to 12 September 2018, Canterbury

Do you have a great idea for research in health, social care or public health? Would you or your team benefit from protected time and expert support to develop your idea into a competitive funding application? The NIHR Research Design Service (RDS)...

Latest links

Latest NIHR funding

Latest events

Forward Thinking - NIHR research on support for people with severe mental illness

10 April 2018

Forward Thinking provides an overview of recent published research, funded by the NIHR, on support for people living with Severe mental illness (SMI).

INVOLVE: Guidance on co-producing a research project

27 March 2018

How to disseminate your research

21 March 2018

Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) - Call 1

7 June, 2018

New funding to focus on key areas where a relatively small investment can result in a transformative impact [...]

Programme Grants for Applied Research - Competition 27

31 May, 2018

18/77 Evaluating the Digital 111 Offer: NHS 111 Online

Developing funding proposals in applied health and social care: NIHR Research for Patient Benefit programme

28 Jun 2018, Manchester

This NIHR Research Design Service North West (RDS NW) event is for health and social care professionals and researchers in the North West of England who want to develop and submit an application to NIHR Research for Patient Benefit [...]

Research Design Service: Residential Grant Development and Writing Retreat

Latest NIHR News

NIHR leaders recognised in Queen's Birthday Honours

10 June, 2018

Research shows that medication-related harm affects one in three older adults following hospital discharge

10 June, 2018

New initiatives to join up and transform patient care to be subject to rapid evaluation

7 June, 2018

Schools join research into the effect of air pollution on children's health

7 June, 2018

NIHR Funding deadlines

17 < Jun 18 >

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						01 02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Individualised support

- You will be asked to complete an advice request form which gathers information needed to assess your needs.
- Your case will be assessed and if eligible you will be allocated a case manager, one of our frontline advisers
- As appropriate, your case manager will provide advice or they will make contact with other advisers or seek our specialists' advice.
- Advisers will then provide the support needed to develop your proposal.

Initial meeting with the RDS NW

Assessment:

- importance of the question
- existing research
- potential funding streams
- study design – is it a trial?
- clinical area
- feasibility of recruitment strategy
- track record of team
- Public Involvement (PI)
- Costs - research, treatment, excess treatment.

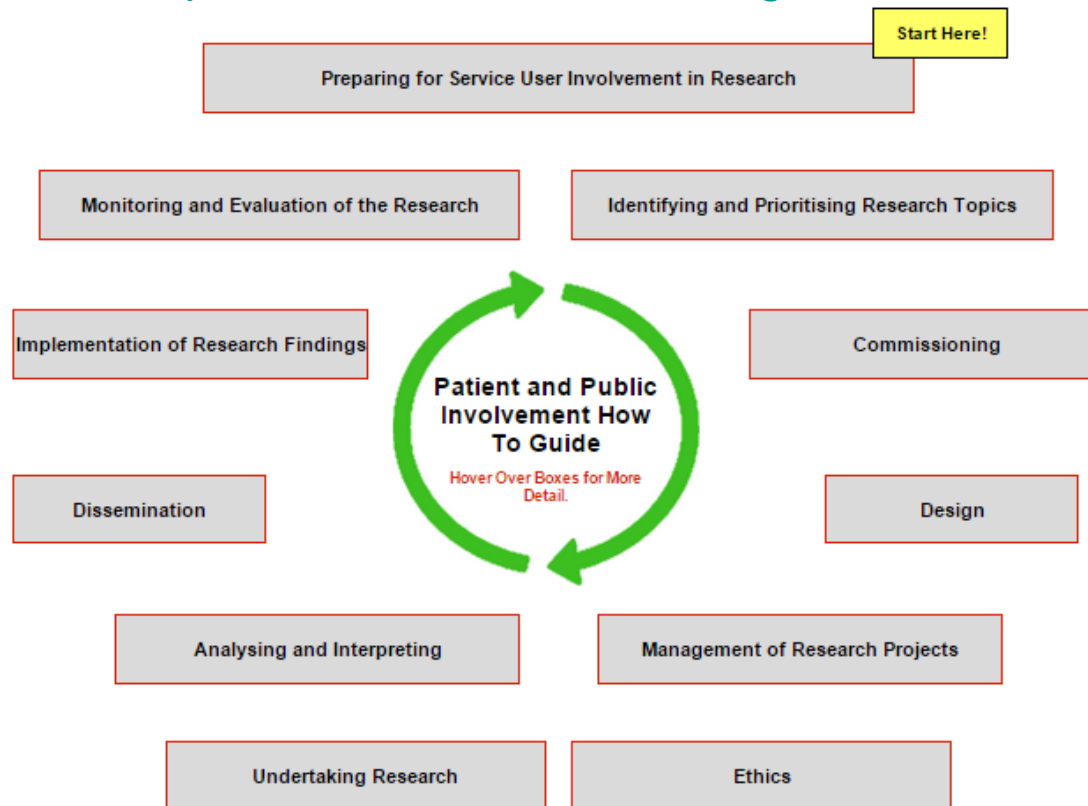
RDS NW Public Involvement Fund



- Need to be receiving RDS NW advice on your project.
- Access to around £350 to fund Public Involvement activity pre-submission of funding application.
- Outline of study plans and engagement activities.
- Assessed by two Public Involvement team members

Patient and Public Involvement How-to Guide

www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk/public-involvement/how-to-guide



Dr Sue Hinder (RaFT Consulting) and Dr Tracey Williamson (Former RDS NW Adviser, University of Salford) had significant input into producing the content of the guide and providing feedback.

Testimonial



- *“Support from the RDS has been invaluable in guiding us through the complexities of the application process.*
- *The blend of structured meetings and one-to-one support was very helpful.*
- *The team also had excellent contacts with relevant expertise that could support our proposal.”*
- **Consultant Clinical Psychologist**

How to access the service in the North West

Access the service through our Regional Co-ordinating Centre:

- via our telephone helpline: 01524 593209
- via email: rds-nw@lancaster.ac.uk
- via our website: www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk/request-advice.