



Medical  
Research  
Council



# Public Partnerships Strategy

Our plan about how we will involve people in our work

2024 - 2027



# What is in this booklet

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**Page 1** Who we are

---



**Page 2** What we want to do

---



**Page 4** About our plan

---



**Page 6** Some things we are already doing

---



**Page 6** Big things we want to do

---



**Page 7** Big thing 1: Make sure people are involved in research

---

# What is in this booklet

---



**Page 9** Big thing 2: Make sure our managers lead the way in working together and involving people

---



**Page 10** Big thing 3: Understand the differences that involving people can make to research

---



**Page 11** Big thing 4: Work together with a mix of different people

---



**Page 13** Big thing 5: Support people to be interested in research

---



**Page 14** Big thing 6: Keep getting better at involving people in research

---



**Page 15** Checking our plan is working

---

# Who we are



We are the UKRI Medical Research Council.



We give money to **research** that looks at things to do with health issues.

**Research** means looking at something to find out more about it.



This might be looking at things like:

- Finding and testing new medicines and treatments.
- Understanding how health issues affect different people in different ways.





- Doing tests in a **lab**. A **lab** is a special room where researchers find out about different things.



The research we support can help people to have better health.



## What we want to do

We want to involve more people in all types of research.



We want to have a good mix of different people working in research.



This could be:

- Researchers.



- Patients and their families and friends.



- The **public**. This means people of any age or background who live in a place or country.



- Schools and colleges.



- Voluntary and community groups.



- Other organisations.



People can tell us what works well in research and what is important to them.



This can help to make research better.

## About our plan



We have written a plan about how we will involve a mix of people in research.



We spoke to lots of different people and organisations to help us write our plan.



It says how we will give people a say and involve them in any decisions.



The plan tells you:

- things we are already doing
- and
- what we want to do over the next 3 years.

## Some things we are already doing:

We have:



- Looked at how we can involve people in research in the best way.



- Worked together with schools and colleges. This helps more children and young people to become interested in research.



- Shared what we found out about involving people in research.

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____
6	_____

## Big things we want to do

There are 6 important things we want to do to make our plan work.

# Big thing 1: Make sure people are involved in research

We will:



- Tell everyone who asks us for money to think about involving people in their work.

They should show us how this will make their research better.



- Tell researchers about money we can give them to help them involve people.



- Make sure a mix of different people help us to decide what research we support.



- Set up and follow new rules about paying the people who get involved.



- Involve people right from the start of any research ideas or decisions.



All of this will help us to make sure that we support research that is about things that people need.

## Big thing 2: Make sure our managers lead the way in working together and involving people

We will:



- Take on a new manager who knows a lot about working together.

They will know a lot about involving people in research that happens in a lab.



- Set up a group called a **public advisory group**. They will make sure we are including people properly in all of our work.

## Big thing 3: Understand the differences that involving people can make to research



We want more people to be involved and have a say in research that happens in a lab.



To do this, we will:

- Try out different ways of involving people to see what works best.



- Share what we find out with other organisations. This helps us to learn from each other and do better research.

## Big thing 4: Work together with a mix of different people

We want to:



- Make sure we work together with a good mix of people.

This will help us to make sure different voices are heard.



- Make sure our researchers come from a mix of groups and backgrounds.



- Make sure we involve people from groups that don't often have a chance to have a say.

This might be:

- children and young people
- people with disabilities
- people from Black, Asian or ethnic minority communities



We will do this by:

- Making sure everyone can work together with us and be involved.



- Making sure our information is clear and easy for everyone to understand.



- Having good relationships with different groups of people.

## Big thing 5: Support people to be interested in research

We want to:

- Support good quality research that people can trust.



- Share what we find out from research projects with other people.



To do this, we will:

- Work together with schools and colleges.



- Work together with people right from the start of any research ideas.

This will help to make sure the research meets people's needs.



## Big thing 6: Keep getting better at involving people in research

We will:



- Work together to set up training about involving people.

The training will include how to involve people in research that happens in a lab.



- Set up groups where people can share what they know about working together.



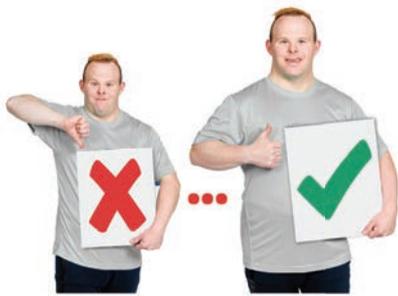
- Learn from each other.

People can learn more about research. And researchers can learn what people need from research.

## Checking our plan is working



We will work with our public advisory group, our researchers and other people to check if our plan is working.



We will use what we learn to do things better.