

NIHR CLAHRC North Thames Research Advisory Panel – Role Description

Background

The CLAHRC is committed to ensuring that the public, patients, carers and service users are integral to our work and play an active role as partners.

We are seeking the input and views of lay people to guide us on how we carry out our research and how to involve patients and public in our work.

Working alongside our Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) lead, this will ensure that the public perspective is at the heart of what we do.

Though we recognise the value of individual experience of health and care, members of this group are expected to raise a broader range of viewpoints beyond their own personal experience.

Title: NIHR CLAHRC North Thames Research Advisory Panel (RAP) member

Time commitment: Two-hour Research Advisory Panel meetings are held four times a year. Additional email and telephone correspondence in between meetings and some reading

Venue: Meetings will be typically held at a Central London location, though meetings can be held across the North Thames area

Remuneration and Expenses: Out-of-pocket expenses for travel. A stipend of £30 per meeting

Supported by: CLAHRC Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) officer

Tenure of Office: 1 Year initially (*extension/renewal for up to the five year cycle of the CLAHRC will be through mutual agreement*)

Role description:

All members of the CLAHRC North Thames Research Advisory panel will be patients, carers or members of the public. The Research Advisory Panel member will be required to contribute by:

- **Commitment to attend and participate in the Panel meetings.** To contribute to discussions during meetings, based on your knowledge and experience, and your thoughts on any presentations and meeting papers
- **Offering feedback and patient/public perspective** on the CLAHRC's current and proposed involvement activities and plans
- **To champion the full range of patient and public views** (including, but not only representing, your personal experience)
- To play a full part in **advising on involvement and engagement issues** such as
 - Research areas and research projects

- Communications and communication materials
 - The acceptability and accessibility of CLAHRC research to the patients and public we wish to recruit to our work or involve in our research projects
- **Preparing for meetings** by reading any meeting papers and raising any issues for clarification with the CLAHRC PPI Officer
 - **Providing feedback** during the meetings and, if you wish, after the meeting

Role requirements

- Experience of health and/or social care services as a patient, carer or relative including parents.
- Knowledge and understanding of patient, public and service user perspectives, with an ability to raise a wider range of viewpoints beyond your own personal experience
- Good communication skills with an ability to listen to others and confidently and constructively express your own views
- An ability to work effectively and positively as part of a team
- Assisting the CLAHRC in bringing an understanding of the viewpoints of patients, carers and the public
- Respecting any requests for confidentiality and declaring any conflicts of interest if they arise

Further Opportunities

Members of the group will have the chance to

- Get involved in the CLAHRC's individual research projects
- Get involved in research grant applications as an adviser or co-applicant
- Meet and work with world-class researchers in some of the UK's most prestigious education institutions

Attendance fees and expenses

A stipend for attendance at meetings of £30 will be paid to the role-holder. Travel expenses to and from meetings will also be reimbursed. Those in receipt of state benefits and allowances are advised to contact the Benefits Advice Service for involvement in research. Contact INVOLVE by email: benefits@invo.org.uk or phone 02380 651088 and quote NIHR CLAHRC North Thames.

Support to Panel members

All members will be supported by an experienced Patient and Public Involvement Officer. The role-holder will be expected to identify any personal learning and development needs with the CLAHRC PPI Officer either in advance of formally taking up the role or during their tenure. Advice and help will also be available from the CLAHRC core team.

Recruitment and Selection Process

NIHR CLAHRC is committed to diversity of lay representation and applications are encouraged from individuals based throughout the North Thames region, from all backgrounds, and all age groups (from sixteen upwards). Interested candidates will be asked to complete a short supporting statement.