

Improvement and Innovation Strategic Funding Bids 2020/21-2022/23

Projects

Key: * denotes a project that includes work to engage with underserved communities

Improving Research Delivery	
Project Title	Project Objective(s)
01779 - Project 'HaRV' (HeAlth Research Vehicle): deployment of a mobile Consortium research vehicle *	Research Delivery In The Community: To ascertain whether the deployment of a research vehicle would be achievable, effective and be of benefit to patients, service users, carers, staff and the general public across the Herefordshire and Worcestershire region.
01761 - Vascular Research and Innovation Consortium (VARICS) - a new approach to deliver regional research	Research Delivery via Clinical Frontline Staff: The main goal is to enable the research to be driven and delivered by frontline staff. Unlike the current model, this will be delivered by regional teams on a subspecialty/clinical theme level, allowing for better coordination and oversight. Research champions will be educating others about research and its impact on the quality of care, and outline the benefits of active involvement in research on an individual level, including career progression and personal development.
01787 - SUPER-STARS: enabling System-wide UPtake and Engagement with Research through the STARS programme	Training Frontline Health and Social Care Staff in Research: This was delivered within a Trust (MPFT) last year. This project is about the wider implementation of this model across the West Midlands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-design and deliver implementation strategies within four health and social care test-bed sites, to support uptake and delivery of the training model • Establish a digital strategy to improve access to learning resources for learners at the four test-bed sites • Translate existing training materials into high-quality e-learning resources and identify opportunities to produce new content, tailored to professional groups where engagement has historically been low • Evaluate the process and success of rolling STARS out across the wider ecosystem

2021-2 Schools Online Resource & Evidence Hub (SOURCE Hub - working title) - Renamed Breathe Education	The project lays a foundation for a collaborative schools and Early Years (EY) research facilitation strategy in Birmingham and wider West Midlands region.
2021-4 Staffordshire and Shropshire Health Economy Research Partnership (groups) (SSHERP partnership group)	The aim is to build a truly allied approach and infrastructure to drive research in the West Midlands region, developing a strong ethos of collaboration, as opposed to a competitive, research relationship between partners and organisations and to develop a culture of willingness to work together to meet the aligned healthcare challenges of the region.
2021-10 Enhancing research into mental health and wellbeing in schools in the West Midlands: Past, present and future	Our aims are to review recent CLAHRC (now ARC) experience in the West Midlands and elsewhere in England to delineate strategic issues and challenges in engaging schools, teachers and pupils in school-based mental health research.
2021-9 Validating cross cutting platforms across the West Midlands CRN for high-volume recruitment to paediatric studies in Primary Care	Our long-term goal is to undertake a programme of studies to explore the feasibility of pre-clinical detection of type 1 diabetes in children aged 3-13 within the West Midlands NIHR CRN.
2021-12 CLiX ENRICH in Worcestershire	The aim of the project is to implement CLiX ENRICH (now TriNetX) within Worcestershire Acute Hospitals Trust (WAHT) which will enable the development of commercial research within the Trust
1188 - Digitising Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A scoping review to identify digital platforms and approaches currently used in healthcare, social care, education and research provision ● An analysis of costs; aiming to provide insights into the additional costs, or cost savings of delivering research digitally ● A service evaluation of how R&D Departments are working digitally in order to identify gaps and share best practice ● Develop a framework or guidance and case studies that can be used by all West Midlands stakeholders when designing and managing studies to best utilise digital opportunities for set-up, recruitment and delivery

1238 - REmote Digital Monitoring in Clinical Research (REDIM-CR): A Standardised Regional Approach	To design, develop and disseminate a novel regional standardised approach to the remote/virtual delivery of clinical research through consensus working with key stakeholders. To this aim, a key objective of this project is to also include in the proposed co-production process, representatives from under-represented/hard-to-recruit groups of research participants.
1240 - Increasing stroke research participation by working across an Acute and Community Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement an integrated stroke research speciality group with combined feasibility, study set up and delivery plan across organisations ● Review current processes to manage the set-up of stroke research across acute and community Trust and manage joint research meetings ● Reduce the time for study set up
Social Care	
1724 - Building a Research Culture for adult social care in the West Midlands*	<p>ADASS-WM works across all Local Authorities within the West Midlands. The team will work with the University of Birmingham to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Measure the baseline of research culture within Local Authorities as a comparison to future measurement ● Develop and implement a plan to further embed a culture of research ● Engage and develop work with Experts with Lived Experience to influence and co-produce research projects ● Develop a medium-term and long-term research strategy for adult social care ● Review access to current research across the region and develop a research dissemination strategy for existing and emerging adult social care research output
1207 - SCREEN 1 & 2 - Social Care Research EngagemENT: Initiate, establish and embed social care research & Public Health research engagement project (PRIDE)	<p>The aim of the project is to initiate, establish and embed social care research within the social care practitioner teams at MPFT/Local Authority in partnership with Keele University and Staffordshire County Council.</p> <p>Expansion of the social care engagement model to public health.</p>

Meeting the health needs of the local population

01739 - Stillbirth and community care*	<p>Developing an infrastructure for primary care research into Late Pregnancy Loss (LPL) or Stillbirth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a network of PCNs ready to participate in this topic of research • Identify current gaps in care and ideas for future interventions • Create a consensus-based agreed minimum set of outcomes that should be measured and reported in research into LPL or stillbirth • Create a national reputation for this area of research and submit grant applications
01750 - Tackling Regional Inequalities in Alcohol-related Liver Disease in the West Midlands (TRIAL-WM)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the burden of alcohol-related liver disease in primary, secondary and public healthcare with a focus on WM, and develop a data resource • Identify missed opportunities for health promotion/intervention in patient pathways • Co-designing a digital intervention to help reduce consumption for the WM
01763 - Zines, emotional literacy and wellbeing in primary schools	<p>Preventative Approach to Mental Health: Developing a toolkit for teaching topics around wellbeing with the aim to reduce the burden on children and young people, families and mental health providers.</p>
01768 - Reducing Infant Mortality in the West Midlands*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To co-design with bereaved parents, a qualitative research project to learn about the lived experiences of socially deprived ethnic minority bereaved parents and submit a full co-designed research proposal for funding • To work with PPIE groups to codesign a strategy for exploring the acceptability of and developing preconception interventions to improve maternal and infant health, and submit this for a subsequent grant proposal
01780 - Establishing an ecosystem for cutting-edge research on diabetic foot ulceration*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bringing together data from community-based and hospital-based care to assess diabetic foot ulceration prevalence by geography, ethnicity, age, or other known risk factors • Develop a process to maintain the timeliness and accessibility of this dataset (i.e. automation) and use the data for research • Identify barriers to participation in research and explore ways to improve participation of underserved communities
1203 - Strategic data linkage and needs assessment for preventive studies in "diabesity" (STOP Diabesity)*	<p>Bringing together local expertise in order to drive forward the collation of data and undertake analysis to inform the development of fellowship/ research grants in preventive interventions of diabetes and associated complications by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determining incidence and prevalence of obesity, prediabetes and type 2 diabetes in children and young people in West Midlands and assess risk factors • Map inequalities in access to bariatric surgery • Carry out preliminary predictive analytics to assess diabetes remission and reduce risk of microvascular complications following bariatric surgery

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assess testing rates (and patterns of testing across various ethnic/SES strata) for diabetes and cardiovascular risk assessment post GDM ● Assessing the inequalities (sex, ethnicity socioeconomic group) in the prevalence in primary care monitoring and management of diabetic kidney disease (DKD)
1211 - Development of an NHS-led Academic Unit of General Practice, Population and Public Health*	<p>To establish the first Primary Care and Public Health Academic Research Unit in the West Midlands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To be an innovative Academic Unit, renowned for the high quality health and social care improvements designed for our local population ● The aim of the Unit would be to support priorities based on locally identified population need; the Unit would work closely with the Public Health specialists in the Trust to align work themes and ensure that the local socio-economic, demographic and disease context informs the strategic direction of the work programme.
1223 - Preventing Unscheduled Health Utilisation in Asthma (PUSH-Asthma)	<p>This innovative project will bring together patients, clinicians, researchers and other stakeholders to improve asthma care for children and adults across Birmingham by addressing the following five aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To create a novel heatmap of asthma-related hospital admissions in Birmingham using data from secondary care as well as socioeconomic and air quality data ● Characterise patients with a high risk of unscheduled hospital admissions for asthma and identify risk factors ● Evaluate changes made to the asthma treatment of children and adults following unscheduled hospital admission for acute attacks of asthma ● Co-produce with patients and other stakeholders an acceptable and scalable targeted intervention ● Design a prospective randomised controlled impact trial of an asthma exacerbation risk prediction tool
1227 - West Midlands COVID-19 Digital Collaborative	<p>Leveraging expertise in setting up and managing multi-partner biobanks and modelling the UK biobank concept, the aim of the project is to develop a regional approach to the sharing of biosamples and data related to COVID-19 patients.</p>
1230 - Developing a West Midlands care pathway and research platform for treatment-resistant depression (TRD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Map out the existing burden, care pathways, resource use, outcomes and treatment needs of individuals with Treatment Resistant Depression (TRD) ● By building on previous pump-priming research funding to understand the feasibility of how new and impending clinical and research treatments for TRD could be researched and delivered. ● In collaboration with researchers, clinicians, NHS leaders and industry to develop a research-ready platform for TRD within BSMHFT which will drive TRD research within the West Midlands and support the future development of a TRD care pathway.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion	
07156 - Building trust, taking action-embedding Race Equality in public involvement in research & innovation*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify the different community groups representing underserved communities locally ● Develop/adapt Race Competency Training and share ● Promote the role of Race Equality Ambassador within health and care research partners ● Adopt an additional site to implement the NIHR Race Equality Framework ● Report feedback from people from Black and African, Asian and Caribbean heritage and their communities, PPIE members and researchers – share this learning through: i) a workshop with the NIHR WM CRN research ecosystem and ii) research and innovation committees as appropriate
2021-7 Co-production of an 'Insight Awards - Clinical Research; PPIE Accreditation Programme	This project seeks to work with members of the public to co-produce an accreditations programme that recognises organisations according to their degree of engagement with the public in research
1204 - Hexitime: A feasibility and pilot study to increase the diversity and inclusion of research expertise through use of a time banking platform. "Research for All"*	To assess the feasibility of increasing ethnic inclusivity in research by using Time Banking through calculating the proportion of participants on Hexitime from a BAME background exchanging research support.
Workforce Capacity/Capability	
2021-1 Developing PI's and CI's in Community and Non-acute settings: having the right tools for the job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To co-create new tools to guide and support potential, developing and established CI/PIs in Community Trusts and non-acute settings, including Social Care sites
2021-5 Sharing of Research Lab Accredited Practices Project	<p>The aim of this project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● run a pilot scheme at other Partner Organisations (PO) to share our research laboratory set up ● share quality systems (GCLP), Document Management System (QPulse), SOP's, analytical plans for each study and methods to enable each PO to utilise existing staff to participate in research projects to increase capacity and capability across the region

2021-8 Research Study Trackers	The aim of this project is to build upon the success of the Digital Research Package and study trackers at UCHW and expand this to partner organisations/sites (winner of the CRN 2019 Improvement Project of the Year)
2021-11 Development of a Virtual Research Assistant- Alexa for Research	To develop a 24/7 virtual research assistant with the use of Artificial Intelligence.
1228 - The ROC-STARS project: Roll-Out and Case study evaluation of the STARS (Supporting the Advancement of Research Skills)	To roll out and evaluate a new research skills programme across Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT). The evaluation will capture qualitative and quantitative data before, during and after the delivery of the skills programme. A feasibility assessment will be conducted to understand how best to tailor the programme for delivery across the regional research ecosystem.