

## Top Tips to Facilitate Meaningful Public Involvement in Health and Social Care Research

1. **Plan** in advance, think about which areas of your research would benefit from Public Involvement and allocate sufficient time and funds.
2. Ensure the appropriate people are approached to get involved in your research, consider **diversity** and your target population.
3. Wherever possible, **negotiate** with people about their roles and responsibilities.
4. Identify one person in the research team who has lead responsibility for public involvement.
5. Provide relevant **support** for each person providing a public perspective, this should be based on their individual needs and their role within the project.
6. Think carefully about the best way to **communicate** with people and discuss specific communication needs. Always use **plain English** when talking to people and explaining your research.
7. Keep people informed throughout by providing **feedback** as and when required.
8. Be honest and **open to criticism** and change.
9. **Remove the labels**, make it clear that no matter what role people might have, be it professor, doctor or public representative, every view is equally important.
10. Provide adequate **payment and expenses** and make sure that issues relating to benefits are identified and addressed.
11. Develop and agree **ground rules** for meetings to help ensure that they are held in an atmosphere of mutual respect.
12. Think about how you will **evaluate** your public involvement. Doing this throughout the life of a project, rather than just at the end, can help you to improve your processes as you progress.

[Find out more](#) about public involvement, why it is important, how we can help and our public involvement fund.