

## Background

HSC R&D was established in 1998 to support and encourage health and social care research & development in Northern Ireland through direct funding for research studies as well as investment in training and infrastructure to build local capacity for research.

One of its strategic aims is to ensure Personal and Public Involvement (PPI) in all aspects of its work.

Strategy for Personal and Public Involvement (PPI) in Health and Social Care research



HSC Research & Development Division

**HSC** Public Health Agency  
Research and Development

## PIER

In 2009, HSC R&D Division now part of the Public Health Agency, established a Panel of PPI Representatives to assist it in its work.

This Panel is called PIER, which stands for *Public Involvement Enhancing Research*.

PIER currently has 11 volunteer members, some of whom are patients, carers or members of the public.

## Purpose of PIER

PIER assist HSC R&D Division with implementing PPI in its decision making processes around funding and to raise awareness of the benefits of PPI in research among HSC researchers and the wider public.



## PIER members

- sit on research funding award panels
- attend Trust Research Governance meetings
- review research documents
- take part in research steering groups
- respond to consultations
- assist researchers with writing grant applications
- provide PPI training for researchers
- represent R&D on national groups
- take part in public awareness campaigns
- receive training and support for their PPI role



## Impact of PIER on R&D

Since 2010...

- PPI now a prerequisite in all funding schemes led by HSC R&D
- PIER members have been involved in over 30 HSC R&D funding panels
- PIER members have helped develop criteria for evaluating PPI in funding applications
- PIER members have been involved in advisory groups for HSC R&D infrastructure e.g. the NI Clinical Research Network
- Over 90 HSC R&D funded research Awards now include PPI reps as members of the research team or collaborators

