



UK Standards *for* Public Involvement

Better public involvement for better health and social care research

INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Offer public involvement opportunities that are accessible and that reach people and groups according to research needs.

WORKING TOGETHER

Work together in a way that values all contributions, and that builds and sustains mutually respectful and productive relationships.

SUPPORT AND LEARNING

Offer and promote support and learning opportunities that build confidence and skills for public involvement in research.

COMMUNICATIONS

Use plain language for well-timed and relevant communications, as part of involvement plans and activities.

IMPACT

Seek improvement by identifying and sharing the difference that public involvement makes to research.

GOVERNANCE

Involve the public in research management, regulation, leadership and decision making.

What people say about using the standards

“This standard made us think more broadly. Previously we had variable involvement, no clear role descriptions or expenses policies. We began to make small changes – accepting what was realistic given our limited resources.”

“We focused on making all our communications accessible. This one standard crossed over to other standards. It completely changed our thinking.”

“Standards gave us a framework to stand back, think clearly and work with researchers, members of the public and others to develop an action plan to support joint working.”

“Our team developed a simple spreadsheet to capture our current involvement activities and ideas for areas we could improve. We’ve created a ‘real time board’ as a visual summary of all our activities and areas for future focus.”

“We approached this by carrying out an assessment from the patients’ perspective of their experience of being involved in implementing the standards focusing on what was good / not so good / what should happen next.”

“A skills audit of public contributors and other members of governance groups can be useful, both to play to people’s strengths and assets and to make skills and value more transparent to the group.”

More information:

Website: <https://sites.google.com/nihr.ac.uk/pi-standards/home>

For an **Easy Read booklet** contact: **NIHR Central Commissioning Facility**

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