

Setting up a Research Innovation and Improvement (RII) function in Kent County Council (KCC)

Dr Edyta McCallum
RII Senior Programme Lead

National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

Research Innovation and Improvement (RI&I): suggested key functions (2020)

- Building collaborations, relationships and shared understanding of priorities, interests, knowledge and skillsets across practitioner/academic interface
- Providing continuing professional development resource (for academics and practitioners)
- Sharing and testing research ideas
- Identifying funding opportunities and possible research partners (recognizing that the appropriate skill sets are not always available at local universities)
- Discussing research findings to stimulate other ideas
- Consult on developing leadership for research in the councils
- Engage with councillors and the public, reinforcing how important research is for councils. Developing and writing funding bids
- Developing research publications and working with comms to disseminate research findings
- Consult on a responsive evidence synthesis function for councils, provided in collaboration with universities building a network of Kent and Medway public health researchers and practitioners.

Integrated Care Strategy

‘Research and practice-based evidence, either to address challenges for health and wellbeing boards in assessing need or to improve the understanding of how those needs can be effectively met through the use of evidence from research or from further research. Similarly, the adoption and spread of proven innovation, can be an effective way to address the population needs and reduce disparities in access, outcomes, and experience’

(Guidance on the preparation of integrated care strategies Published 29 July 2022)

Three key areas

1. **Wider Determinants of Health**

Research provides access to comprehensive, evidence based global information and data on indicators that influence wider health determinants. Application of research methodologies will assist in identifying key influencers and suitable interventions that will then be reviewed and agreed by the partners.

2. **'Whole patient journey' – encompassing provisions from within the community through to acute care**

The research community is proficient in establishing collaborations, sharing resources, streamlining and unifying goals to deliver projects in line with contractual agreements.

3. **Effective and efficient implementation of research findings**

The commissioners, providers and other stakeholders will be expected to evidence engagement of research community in any proposed programme. Equally ongoing schemes will be evaluated for performance in required standards of equal access, outcomes and experience.

Any questions?

Edyta.mccallum@kent.gov.uk

