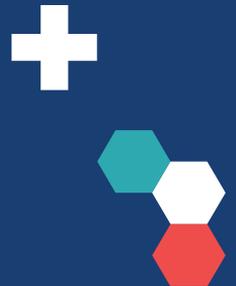


An introduction to the NIHR CRN How might we help you?



17th November 2020

Research Delivery Managers
Becky Dilley
Clinical Research Network
KSS
&
Julie Mugarza
Clinical Research Network NWC

Outline

- What does the CRN do?
- How do we operate?
- How do we all engage to maximise on the opportunity for you to gain support from the CRN?

Relevance to social care...?

- We are still developing our offering to social care
- Based on support given to NHS settings but we know that the need is different in social care
- Tell us what we don't know!
- Let us know what would help

About the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

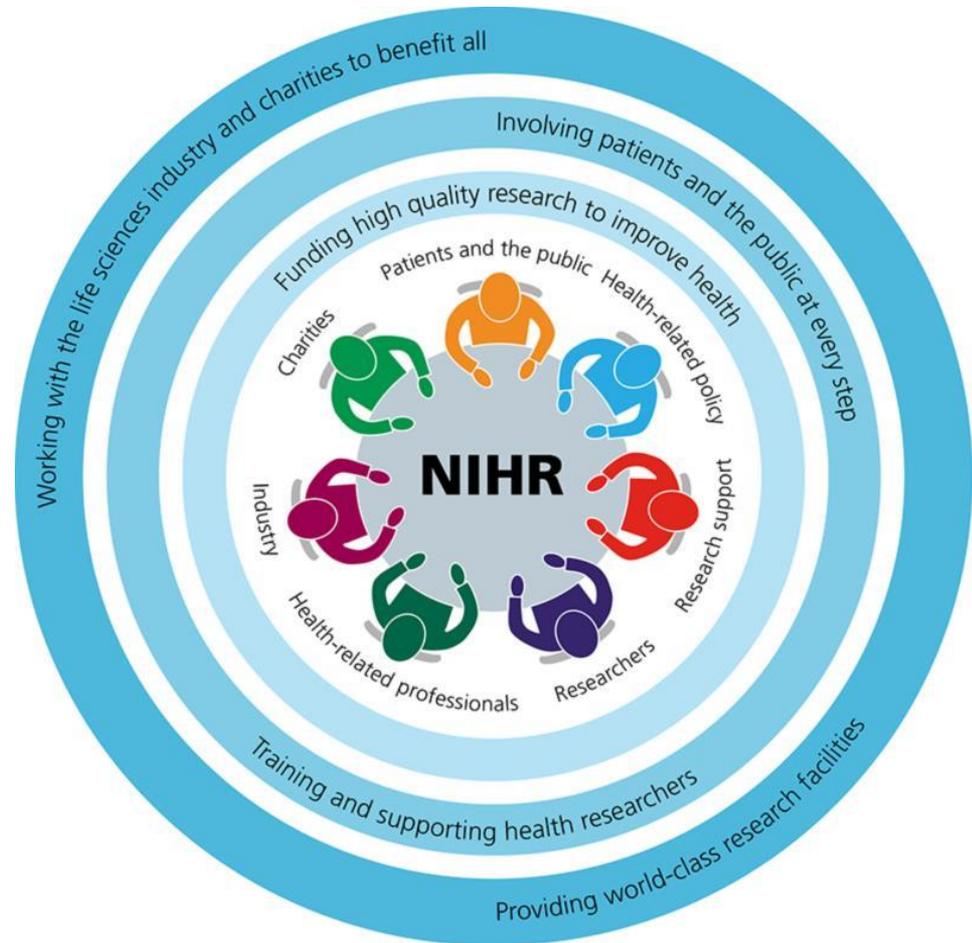
Funded by DHSC

Largest UK **Investor** in health/social care research – NOT just clinical research!

Improving the nation's health and wealth through research

Driving research 'from bench to bedside' to benefit patients, care users, carers, public, H&SC staff and the economy.

Developing and supporting all who conduct and contribute to applied health and social care research.

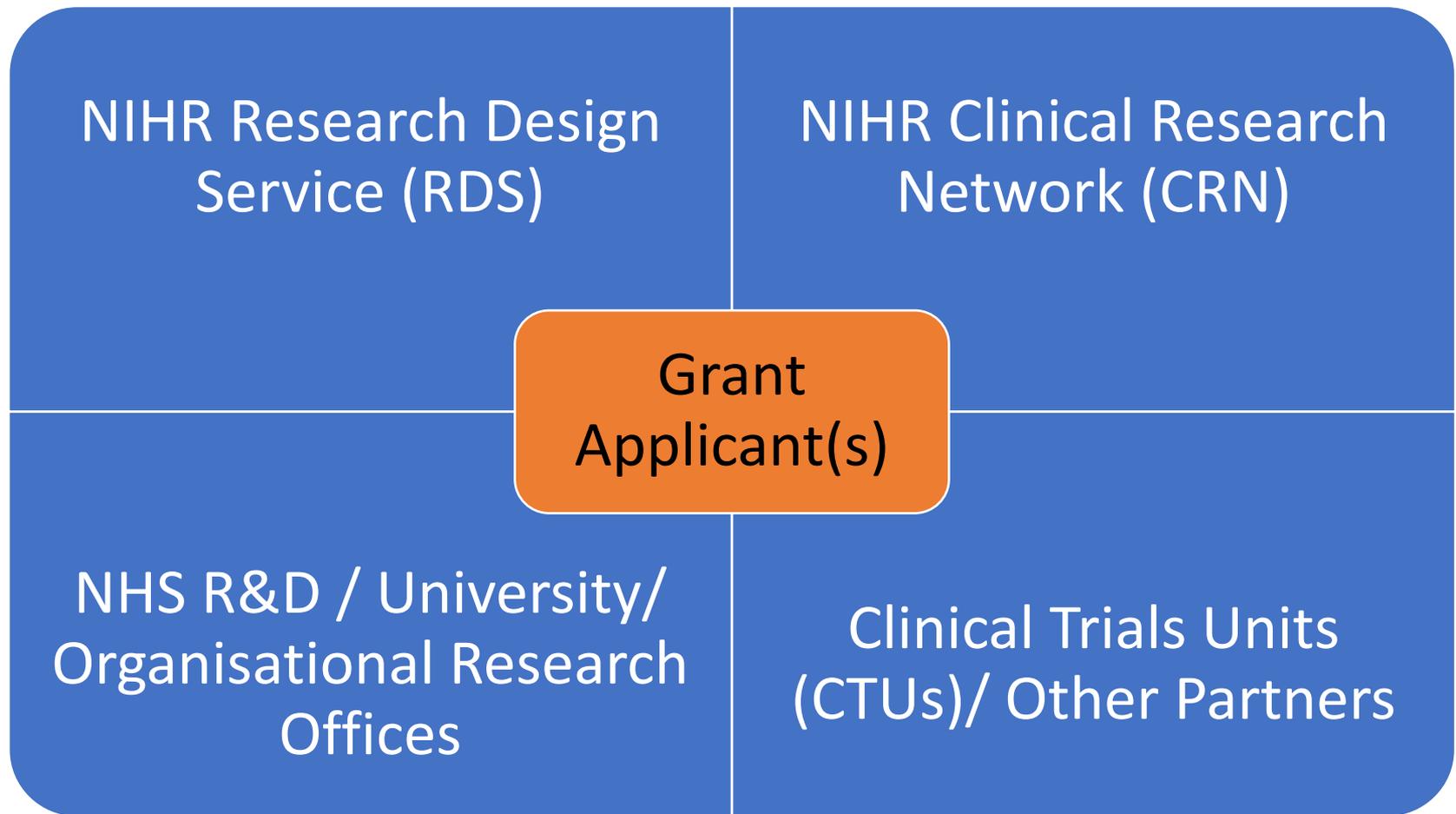


National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

“Commissions and funds health, public health and social care research that is essential for improving the health and wealth of the nation”



Who can help?

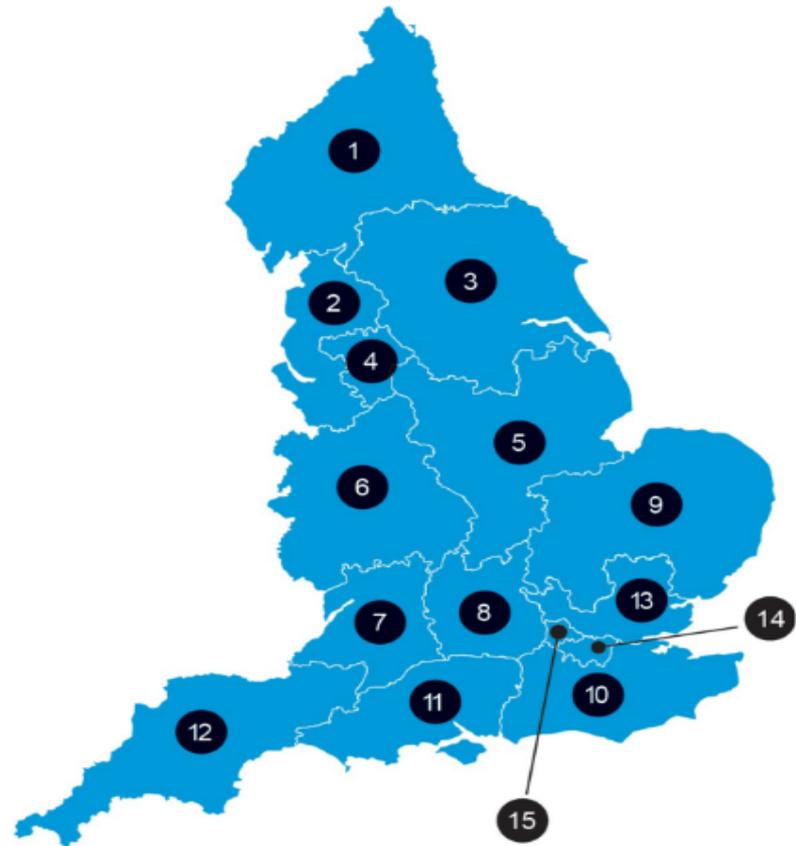


CRN workforce and structure

- National Coordinating Centre (CRNCC)
- 15 Local Clinical Research Networks (LCRNs)
- Network funded research delivery staff in NHS hospital trusts, universities, local authorities and other health and social care settings
- 30 health specialties, plus social care

15 Local Networks

1. North East and North Cumbria
2. North West Coast
3. Yorkshire and Humber
4. Greater Manchester
5. East Midlands
6. West Midlands
7. West of England
8. Thames Valley and South Midlands
9. Eastern
10. Kent, Surrey and Sussex
11. Wessex
12. South West Peninsula
13. North Thames
14. South London
15. North West London



The CRN works nationally - Contact your local CRN, they will help you navigate the national system.

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/explore-nihr/support/clinical-research-network.htm>

Aims of the NIHR Clinical Research Network

Ensure citizens and health and social care staff from all parts of the country are able to participate in and benefit from quality health and care research

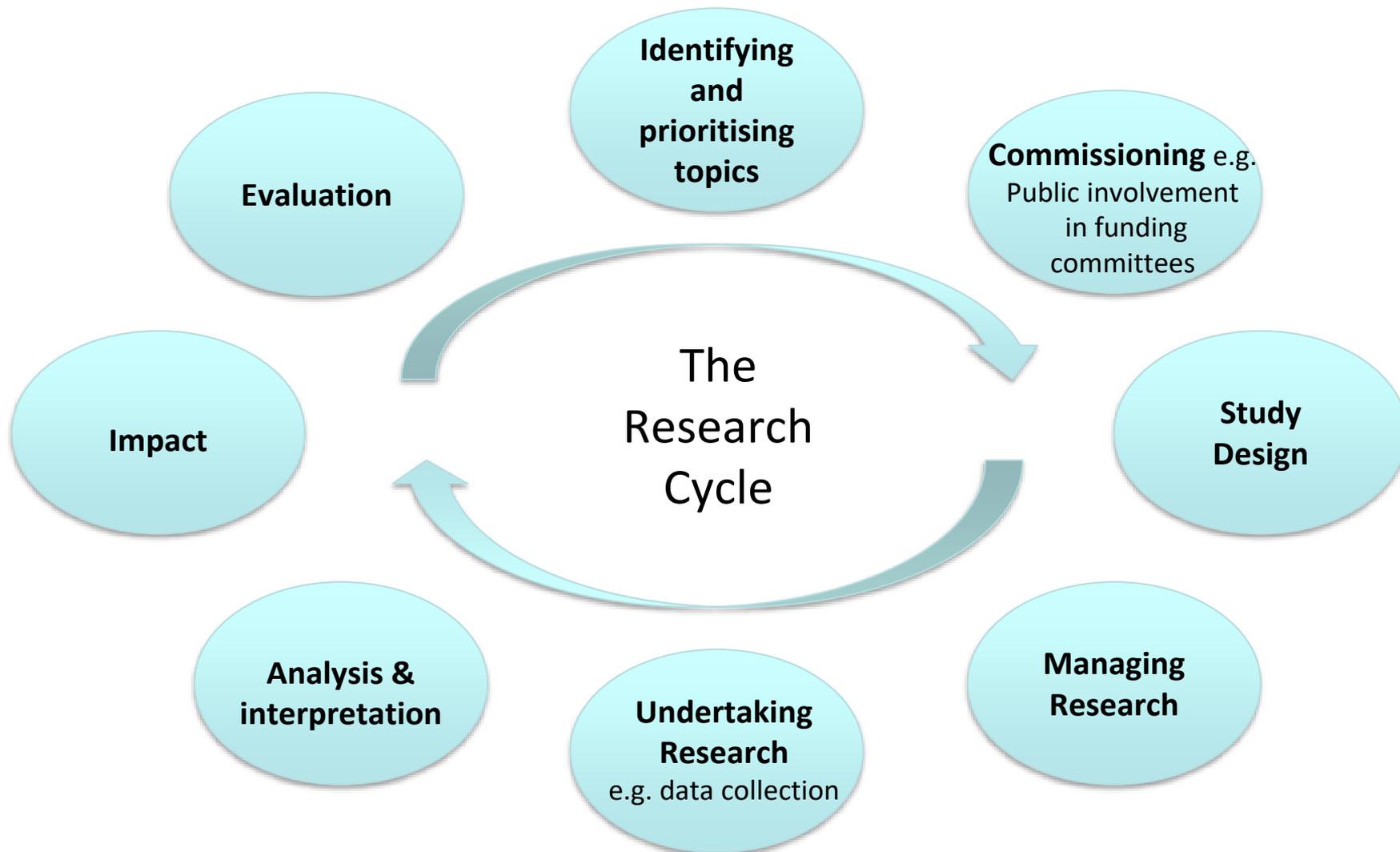
Integrate health and care research and frontline care

Improve the quality, speed and coordination of health and care research

Increase collaboration with industry partners and ensure that the NHS and social care can meet the health and care research needs of industry

What is the NIHR Portfolio ?

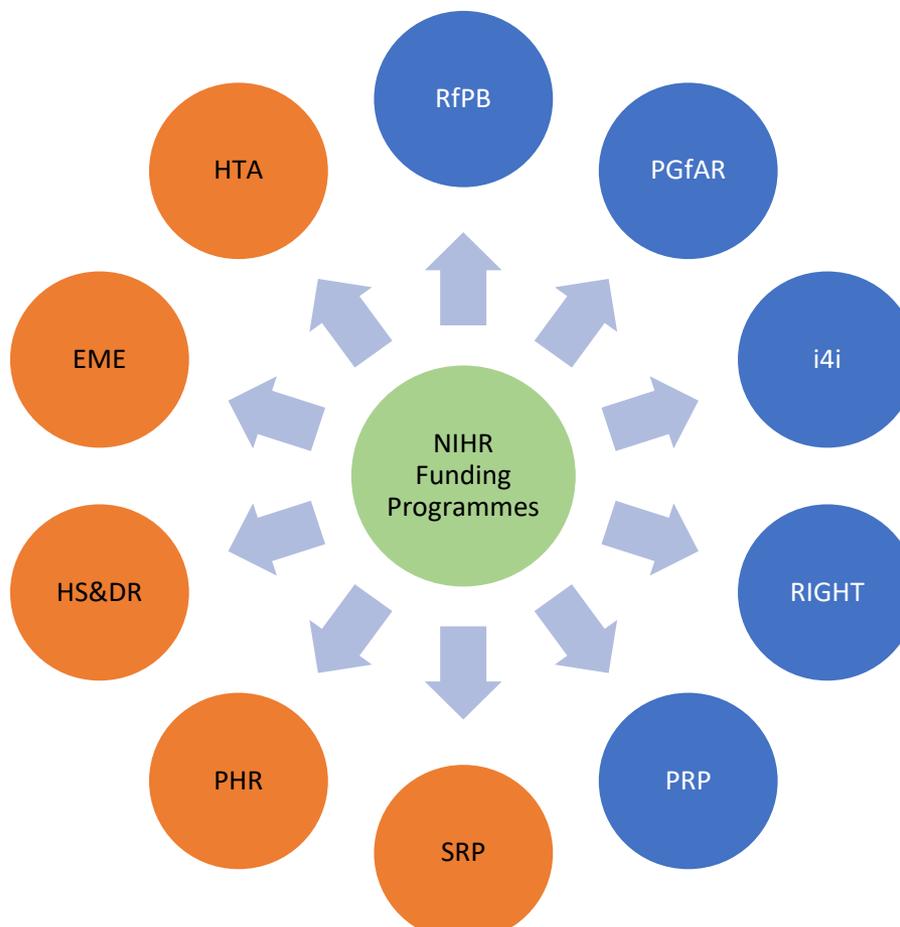
- A collection of high-quality research studies that are eligible for consideration for support from the Clinical Research Network in England.
- Research activity (recruitment) data from the NIHR CRN Portfolio is used to inform the allocation of NHS infrastructure for research to each local region, which will be used to support future health and social care research



NIHR Funding Programmes

There are currently a total of 10 NIHR [funding programmes](#) delivered through appointed [coordinating centres](#).

The [NIHR Academy](#) is responsible for development and coordination of NIHR academic training, career development and research capacity development.



NIHR Social Care focus

Most (if not all) NIHR programmes and NIHR Academy schemes are open to relevant social care proposals. Two particular schemes include:

- Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) now runs a dedicated Research for Social Care (RfSC) funding call every year.
- The NIHR Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) programme also supports rigorous and relevant evidence in order to improve the quality, accessibility and organisation of health and social care.

NIHR Social Care focus

- A large amount of funding each year on social care research through NIHR funding programmes and training and career development.
- Also deliver relevant research in social care settings, and involve people who need care and support and carers in funded work.
- The [NIHR School for Social Care Research](#) (NIHR SSCR) aims to increase the evidence-base for adult social care practice. The School brings together leading academic centres in England demonstrating excellence in social care research, and complements NIHR funding streams.

Other sources of funding

- [UK Research and Innovation](#) (i.e. Research Councils, Innovate UK, Research England)
- Charities (including international charities and foundations)
- International state funding (e.g. European Union, US [National Institutes of Health](#))
- Industry
- Local funding (e.g. NHS Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, UK Universities)

NB Non commercial partners list available from NIHR and is not exhaustive

The NIHR *Clinical* Research Network (CRN)

Supports **all kinds** of health and social care research,
not just '***Clinical***' !

We can help you to make the greatest impact from the delivery of your study if you engage with us as early as possible - even if you haven't secured funding for your research yet.

Link with your CRN EARLY!
From concept of your idea



The CRN:

Can support research regardless of location, study type, study size or focus, as long as:

1. It meets the DHSC's definition of research
2. Has full research funding i.e. funding to meet all Research Costs in compliance with the Attribution of costs for Research and Development (AcoRD) guidance, funded with at least one of your funding streams being awarded through open competition
3. have appropriate ethical approval (e.g. NHS, Social Care REC, or Ministry of Defence REC); and Health Research Authority (HRA) Approval where required

Note - PHRASING ON YOUR IRAS (Integrated Research Application System) FORM IS PIVOTAL – if in doubt ask your local CRN!

Early Contact is Key!

Through accessing support from your study support service - Early Contact and Engagement Team, you will benefit from a bespoke service to meet the needs of your study. This may involve:

- Portfolio eligibility advice
- Review the design and deliverability of your study - Exploration of recruitment pathways
- Assistance with attribution of costs so your study is correctly and fully funded
- Support for completion of the SoECAT form (Schedule of Events Costing Attribution Tool)
- SoECAT validation
- Regulatory submissions
- Local intelligence to optimise delivery
- Involve the public and experts by experience, if needed

This service is designed to complement the support already provided by the NIHR Research Design Service and individual R&D offices within your organisation if applicable

Support for settings

The CRN can help research settings by:

- Providing training and resources to support researchers and social care staff

Helping to recoup costs associated with being part of a study (where the study is eligible) – Service support costs

- Connecting you with a local network of researchers and support staff that can help at both design and delivery i.e. buddying up around such things as consent

Setting up your study

- Finding sites – existing or new contacts
- Site set up – advice on permissions
- Liaising with sites – central point of contact for you within a region
- Support and training for sites
- Providing support costs
- Staff – in some regions, dependent on study and capacity
- Study performance - recruitment to time and target (RTT)

Examples:

There is a growing body of social care studies:

- MiCare: evaluating the impact of community engagement on care home residents' quality of life.
- Bathing adaptations in the homes of older adults: A randomised controlled trial, economic evaluation and process evaluation (BATH-OUT-2)
- Promoting good practice in relation to alcohol use in care homes for older people
- Improving social care support for victims of violence in the British South Asian community
- A couple of recently funded RfSC projects

Our focus

- Developing our offering to social care – adult and children
- Getting to know people!
- Expanding into wider social care
- Hidden and hard-to-reach populations
- Use of technology
- Covid-19 related research starting to come through
- Influencing positive policy change

Find out more

Local CRN contacts:

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becky.dilley@nih.ac.uk



Any Questions ?

