

Involvement of people in research capacity development in Social Care



What did we do?

Our team organised a public involvement workshop to inform the works of the Social Care Research Development programme (ASCENT)

Why is this relevant?

Developing the research capacity of social care organisations can enable (a) the delivery of academic research and service evaluations, and (b) to accelerate the use of evidence in social care practice

Why is the involvement of people important?

We know from literature that supporting social care organisations to develop their research capacity can accelerate the use of evidence in practice and, as a result, improve the quality of care. However, we don't know enough about how people's experience who access care and carers can inform the development of research capacity.

What are the next steps?

We will use key summary points to inform our work on developing research capacity in social care organisations, and use it when speaking with social care professionals



1. Barriers to care

- Lack of care integration and person-centred decision making approaches
- Decline on care quality and service provision over time
- Rising cost of care
- Decreased public funding for social care
- Workforce turnover barrier to developing trusting relationship with people
- Lack of mechanisms of collecting and embedding people's feedback in care



2. Suggested areas of further research/evaluation

- Effectiveness of inter-organisational collaboration between health and social care
- Quality and cost-effectiveness of types & processes of existing care
- People's experience with provided social care
- Key factors impacting staff turnover and retention
- The contribution of new technologies
- Understanding the demographic profile of people who access care to match population need with offered care

3. Attitudes towards use of research in practice

Positive attitudes toward using evidence to support and justify service provision (scepticism when changes risk care stability)



4. Enabling people's involvement in research/ evaluation

Recruitment led by individuals not involved in direct care delivery

Plan for accessibility to accommodate participants' needs (e.g. online vs face-to-face, digital literacy)

Use of incentives