

# How we work with others

## Diversity and equality

**INVOLVE places equality and diversity at the centre of our work. We actively seek and value involvement from a variety of cultures, experiences and perspectives. We are guided by the principles of the [Equality Act 2010](#)**

Footnote: the [protected characteristics](#) under the Equality Act 2010 are: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation.

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We work in partnership with researchers, research commissioners and the public to:

- maximise the opportunities for public involvement
- learn and share knowledge and experiences of public involvement
- support inclusion, diversity and equity and the active involvement in research of groups and individuals who are often excluded from research
- make our work accessible
- strengthen and build upon existing work by INVOLVE and others.

Examples of our current work with others include:

- working with National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) stakeholders to look at options around developing a NIHR-wide approach to encourage integrated learning and development opportunities for researchers and members of the public
- working with NIHR Programmes and other key stakeholders to review and develop the question and guidance for

plain English summaries in grant applications, and to develop criteria and propose methods for assessing the quality of plain English summaries

- supporting forums for Research Programmes, Research Design Services (RDS) and Collaborations for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRC)
- Working with [Patient Focused Medicines Development \(PFMD\)](#) to transform the way in which we understand, engage, and partner with patients globally in the design and development of research and medicines by focusing on unmet patient needs.