

# Benefits advice service for involvement

*Please note that benefits guidance and tax legislation have been subject to considerable change/reinterpretation since 2019. Any INVOLVE documents referring to the payment of involvement fees may now be out of date and are pending a review during 2020. INVOLVE's guidance should not be substituted for professional advice, and INVOLVE accepts no liability for decisions or actions taken as a result of its guidance. You are always recommended to take your own tax, finance or legal advice.*

## **New confidential service launched 29 January 2015**

- a new service offering personal advice and support on how payment of fees and expenses for public involvement might affect people in receipt of state benefits
- NIHR in partnership with others is offering a service that covers advice on payment of fees and expenses for public involvement in health or social care research, service design or service delivery
- the service will be provided by Bedford Citizens Advice Bureau, initially as a pilot for one year.

## **Who is the Benefits Advice service for?**

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is offering this confidential service to:

- **members of the public involved** with NIHR organisations or NIHR funded research projects. [Find out more](#)
- **researchers and staff** within NIHR organisations or NIHR funded research projects who are supporting members of the public to get involved. [Find out more](#)

INVOLVE is funding this service on behalf of, and for the

NIHR. Other partners who are also part of the service are:

- NHS England
- Health Research Authority (HRA)
- Involving People (Wales)
- Social Care Institute for Excellence and Think Local, Act Personal (TLAP)