The future and vision for involving and engaging the public in Wales with health and social care research

Angela Martin

Division for Social Care and Health Research
Public Involvement and Engagement with Research

- Health and Care Research Wales aims to encourage research in order to help improve health and wellbeing of the people of Wales.

- All our activity is underpinned by the belief the people of Wales have a key role to play in driving research quality and relevance.

- Research that is more relevant to people’s needs and concerns.

- Coproduction - equal relationship between patient and professionals.
Progress to date

➢ Since 2005 funded ‘Cynnwys Pobl - Involving People’

➢ Building strength and expertise

➢ Made considerable progress

➢ Provides a solid foundation on which to build on for the future ....

➢ Restructuring exercise

➢ Our aim is to capitalise on work to date, create a unique environment in which Wales can become a world leader for engaging with and involving the public in research
Our ambition

Our ambition is to create an environment where the population of Wales is pro-actively engaged with research and able to help prioritise, influence and shape health and social care research in Wales

- Greater public awareness and understanding of research and its benefits
- People are empowered and enabled to become involved and participate in research
- Establish Wales as a centre of excellence for meaningful public involvement
Our ambition

Encourage opportunities for public and patients across Wales to be involved in prioritising, shaping, designing and delivering high quality health and social care research.
What does this look like?

- Increased numbers of people involved with and taking part in research
- Agenda setting and prioritising
- Inclusivity and Equality
- Dialogue – listening, enabling and informing
- Routine and expected element in all H&SC research activity in Wales
- Consistency and excellence across Wales
- Patients routinely offered opportunities to participate and be involved
- People able to find and ask about research opportunities
- People are acknowledged and valued for their contribution
How will we achieve this?

Develop an overarching programme of work to ensure effective coordination and collaboration to help achieve our ambitions.

Three interrelated components:

- **HealthWise Wales** — new national initiative to raise awareness of research and encourage people to take part in research.

- The Health and Care Research Wales **Support Centre** — delivery of public involvement activities including resources, advice and guidance for public and researchers.

- The Health and Care Research Wales **Infrastructure** — direct responsibility for facilitating public involvement and engagement in work programme.

Balance between central coordination and onus on researchers for increased responsibility.
Next steps

Immediate:
- Scoping exercise across the Infrastructure
- Review of activity
- Support Centre Delivery Plan
- Policy direction

Longer term:
- Cultural change amongst public and researchers
- Use our influence to champion interests of the public in research in Wales more widely
- On-going, long term involvement mechanisms for HealthWise Wales