

Summary of public adviser role

The role of a public adviser is to bring life experiences and contrasting opinions to challenge health inequalities in order to translate research findings into service improvements. These projects matter to the wider public as well as to the society public advisers represent. Public advisers are a diverse community of different ages, faiths, backgrounds and languages who have an interest in health and well-being not only for present but also future generations.

Public advisers commit and devote a lot of time to work both individually and as part of a team with academics and health professionals. They listen to different proposals and communicate effectively to express viewpoints as a critical friend. The ability to be transparent yet value confidentiality enables public advisers to be passionate, have a voice about a topic of interest, be open minded and in turn be respected and valued by the people they are involved with.

Public advisers have been an integral part of learning through research to developing projects which have led to valuable findings and improvements for service users. This collaboration and dissemination of knowledge and enthusiasm, supported by skills development and appropriate training, has enabled this dynamic group of individuals to transfer their confidence and skills to their future roles in all aspects of life.

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Produced by public advisers exit resource pack group 08/08/19

