**Glossary of terms**

**The following terms are defined in relation to NIHR ARC NWC activities**

* **Applied Research** - scientific investigations conducted to answer specific clinical questions or solve practice-related problems.
* **Applied Research Collaboration North West Coast (ARC NWC) -** a collaboration that brings universities, local authorities, NHS organisations and the public together – working to accelerate the translation of research findings into health service improvements and changes that will reduce health inequalities and improve population health.
* **Commissioning Board/Panel** – a group of people made up of research funders, researchers, health and/or social care professionals, possibly including service-users. Their role is to oversea research commissioning processes.
* **Co**-**production** – Equitable involvement of the public and experts by experience at all levels of research and implementation.
* **Equity** – Offering everyone the different support based on individual needs.
* **Equality** – Offering everyone the same support regardless of need.
* **Focus Group** - A method to draw out the views of a group who have a common experience or an interest, under the guidance of a facilitator.
* **Health determinants** – Physical, social, economic or political or individual or place-based characteristics that impact on health.
* **Health inequalities** – Systematic, unjust and avoidable differences in health across the population and between different groups within society.
* **Health Inequalities Assessment Tool (HIAT)** - HIAT functions as a lens through which to assess the extent to which a piece of work proposed within ARC NWC has potential to reduce health inequalities.
* **Host Trust** – the organisation that holds the funding contract with the NIHR.
* **Implementation** - "making things happen" and "making sure they have happened". In terms of ARC NWC this implies achieving changing ways of working that narrow the health inequality gap and doing so using evidence that shows there is a better way of delivering care in terms of outcomes and cost.
* **Information Sheet** - Researchers must provide a patient information sheet to everyone they invite to take part in a research study, to ensure people can make an informed decision about this.
* **Lay summary** - A lay summary is a brief summary of a research project or a research proposal that has been written for members of the public, rather than researchers or professionals.
* **Mainstreaming** – Make equity a systematic consideration in everything we do.
* **Matched funding** - Matched funding refers to cash and/or costed support in kind which is dedicated to supporting the ARC NWC Themes of research, implementation or a mix of both.
* **National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)** - The National Institute for Health Research is a UK government body that coordinates and funds research for the National Health Service.
* **Neighbourhoods for Learning** (NsfL) - The ARC Neighbourhoods for Learning (NsfL) are a network of neighbourhoods of approximately ward size across the NW Coast footprint identified by local authorities as areas in which population health was relatively poor compared to more advantaged neighbourhoods.
* **Members** – Organisations (NHS, Universities, Local Authorities) that have formally agreed to contribute matched funding in cash or in kind towards the ARC NWC Programme
* **Peer review** - Peer reviewing is where a research proposal or a report of research is read and commented on by people with similar interests and expertise to those who wrote the proposal or report.
* **Public Engagement -** refers to the many ways in which the public can contribute to ARC NWC work including active involvement in: prioritising work, the design and conduct of activities and the production and dissemination of outputs.
* **Public Advisers –** An individual with lived experience (that may be specific to a health condition) who contribute in all stages of research from design to implementation and evaluation.
* **Research Capacity Development -** developing a real understanding of what research entails, so participants (organisations and individuals) would not just learn about research, and use research, but do research, alongside experienced researchers.
* **Research ethics committee (REC) -** NHS Research Ethics Committees (RECs) have been established throughout the UK for many years with the purpose of safeguarding the rights, dignity and welfare of people participating in research in the NHS.
* **Research proposal -** An application form or set of papers that researchers have to complete to say what research they want to do and how they want to do it.
* **Research protocol -** A research protocol sets out exactly how the research will be done.
* **Service user -** someone who uses or has used health and/or social care services because of illness or disability.

**Useful resources:**

[**https://www.nihr.ac.uk/glossary**](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/glossary)

<https://getitglossary.org/>

<https://arc-nwc.nihr.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Glossary-of-terms.pdf>