

**Research & Innovation Catalyst**

**Guidance for applicants**

**Purpose**

To enable EKHUFT employees to ‘pitch’ for small amounts of money (up to £7,500) to support small-scale research and innovation projects. This round is being run in conjunction with the ARC KSS (Applied Research Collaboration Kent, Surrey, Sussex) and applications **must** involve collaboration with someone from another ARC member organisation, this can be another health or social care provider or HEI within Kent, Surrey and Sussex. This collaboration could be well developed or at a very early stage and the funding used to help develop the collaboration. A full list of the ARC members can be found at the end of this form.

ARCs support applied health and care research that responds to, and meets, the needs of local populations and local health and care systems. [ARC KSS](https://www.sussexpartnership.nhs.uk/research-arc-kss) is made up of local providers of NHS services, local providers of care services, NHS commissioners, local authorities, universities, private companies and charities. Its aim is to improve the quality, quantity, relevance and appropriate use of applied health and social care research, with a particular focus on coastal deprivation where early life indicators of physical and mental health are particularly poor.

Their work is divided into 4 main themes:

* **Starting Well:** Early detection and Intervention of Mental Health Problems in Children and Young People
* **Dementia:** Translating research to better care to help people to live well with dementia
* **Social care:** person-centred, community based social care.
* **Primary and Community Health Services:** Sustainable and integrated care focusing on people with chronic conditions and marginalised groups.

There are also 4 cross cutting themes

* **Digital Innovation:** Harnessing digital technology to help create a sustainable health and social care system.
* **Health and Social Care Economics:** using best practice to efficiently fund health and social care services of benefit to patients
* **Co-production:** Involving and working with patients and the public to produce relevant research
* **Public Health:** Improving health and reducing need among older patients with multiple conditions and younger people at time of transition.

You should consider these themes and if, in collaboration with your team, your project fits one of them, you should mention this in your application. However, as this is difficult for many projects originating in the acute environment, it is not a requirement for the application.

If you have a great idea or concept that you would like to develop further please complete the application form, outlining your project in 300 words. Selected applications will then be invited to present their project idea to the Catalyst panel.

The ‘pitch’ will take a similar format to BBC TV’s ‘Dragon’s Den’ and will be of **up to 15 minutes duration followed by 15 minutes for the Panel to ask questions**. Applicants can choose whatever presentation format they feel comfortable with, however, remember that the event will be run virtually so any method used must be compatible with Webex. Decisions to fund will be made on the night once all pitches have been made.

**How to make your pitch**

Consider the following questions when developing your application

* **What is the research question you would like to answer or what is the process or innovation that you wish to develop?** – Defining a clear, simple, unambiguous question is perhaps the most important element of your pitch!
* **What is the context?** – Panel members will want to see that the work is filling a ‘gap in the evidence’ and not repeating work that has already been done. The Catalyst is unlikely to support ‘service development’ unless you can demonstrate that your idea hasn’t been tested and evaluated elsewhere.
* **Who are your (proposed) collaborators and how do you plan to work together**- why have you chosen this collaborator and what input will each of the team members have to the project?
* **How will you further develop your collaboration?**
* **How will you go about answering the question?** – e.g. what methods will you use, how will you go about analysing your results etc.
* **How will the money received be spent?**-outline briefly the proposed expenditure plans.
* **How do you anticipate your collaborative project will improve care for patients?**
* **What is your plan to take forward the ideas generated by your collaboration?** – e.g. external grant funding to pursue a research project, “market” your innovation, share your ideas and outcomes with others, etc.
* **How will you disseminate your findings?** – Be imaginative here! Traditional methods of dissemination – e.g. journals, conferences – may not be the best way of sharing your findings especially if they are mostly relevant to the East Kent context

**EKHUFT R&I Catalyst Application Form**

This form should be completed, signed, scanned and returned, by email to Jill Baker [jillian.baker@nhs.net](mailto:jillian.baker@nhs.net) **no later** than Friday 19th March.

There will be a Q&A webinar to answer any questions on project ideas, the application process and collaborations on Tuesday 23rd February at 10am. If you are interested in attending this or if you are unable to attend but have any questions, please contact Jane Povey [jane.povey2@nhs.net](mailto:jane.povey2@nhs.net).

**All applicants are advised to make themselves available from 5.30 pm on Wednesday 21th April 2021. We will give shortlisted applicants at least one weeks’ notice to prepare their pitch**.

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| **Your name:** |
| **Your ward/department, site and EKHUFT division:** |
| **Your email address:** |
| **Your contact mobile number (mandatory):** |
| **The title of your pitch:** |
| **Collaborators- names and organisations** (if you have not yet identified a collaborator please indicate the organisation that you would like to collaborate with) |
| **A description of your pitch: (maximum of 300 words)** |
|  |
| **Declaration**  In signing this application, I confirm that I am employed by East Kent Hospital University Foundation Trust. I also confirm that, if successful, I will abide by all relevant Trust policies and procedures in particular those pertaining to conduct of research in accordance with ICH GCP and DH Research Governance Framework and the Trust’s Innovation/IPR policy, and that the work entailed in this award will begin within 3 months of notification of a successful award.  Signed:  Name:  Date: |
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**ARC Member organisations:**

<https://arc-kss.nihr.ac.uk/about-us/member-organisations>

East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust

Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

Western Sussex Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

Kent County Council

Medway Council

Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

Canterbury Christ Church University

University of Surrey

Brighton and Sussex Medical School

University of Kent

NHS South Kent Coast CCG

NHS West Kent CCG

NHS Swale CCG

NHS Canterbury and Coastal CCG

NHS Ashford CCG

The University of Chichester

Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust

Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Dartford and Gravesham NHS Trust

Surrey and Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

National Social Marketing Centre

NHS Thanet CCG

NHS Medway CCG

NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley CCG

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

Integrated Care 24 Ltd

Kent Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters

University of Sussex

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

East Sussex County Council

Kent Surrey Sussex AHSN

University of Brighton

University of Greenwich

Central Surrey Health