

DECK Research Study Advisory Group: Terms of Reference 2023-2024

What is the 'Understanding Diverse Cultural Backgrounds and Ethnicity for Adult Social Care (DECK)' study about?

The purpose of this study is to better understand the influence of diverse cultural backgrounds and ethnicity as barriers to access and uptake of local authority commissioned adult social care services, in the London Boroughs of Newham and Redbridge.

It is a scoping study, that uses realist action research methods.

The study website is: <https://www.arc-nt.nihr.ac.uk/research/projects/understanding-diverse-cultural-backgrounds-and-ethnicity-for-adult-social-care-deck/>

What is NIHR Applied Research Collaboration North Thames, and what is their role in this study?

The [National Institute of Health and Care Research \(NIHR\)](#) funds, enables and delivers world-leading health and social care research that improves people's health, care and wellbeing and promotes economic growth. [NIHR Applied Research Collaborations \(ARCs\)](#) are regional collaborations between organisations that undertake applied health and care research. [NIHR ARC North Thames](#) is one of 15 ARCs, supporting applied health and care research that responds to the needs of local populations and health and care systems – and it has **funded** this research study.

What is NIHR Applied Research Collaboration North Thames?

The [National Institute of Health and Care Research \(NIHR\)](#) funds, enables and delivers world-leading health and social care research that improves people's health, care and wellbeing and promotes economic growth.

[NIHR Applied Research Collaborations \(ARCs\)](#) are regional collaborations between organisations that undertake applied health and care research. NIHR ARC North Thames is one of 15 ARCs, supporting applied health and care research that responds to the needs of local populations and health and care systems.

What is the purpose of the Advisory group?

The purpose of the Advisory Group for the [DECK Research Study](#), is to enable individuals with professional experience of adult social care to provide insights and contribute to an action research study to better understand the influence of diverse cultural backgrounds and ethnicity as barriers to access and uptake of local authority commissioned adult social care services, in the London Boroughs of Newham and Redbridge.

Members of the Advisory Group will help to plan and shape the [DECK Research Study](#). We are looking for members from a wide range of backgrounds with a variety of professional experiences of adult social care services provided in the London Boroughs of Redbridge & Newham.

Responsibilities

- Attend three online meetings
- Read documents in advance and raise issues for clarification prior to meetings
- Review the terms of reference for the Advisory Group, and sign up and work to these
- Maintain confidentiality where appropriate
- Meetings should be a safe space, where members feel like they can be transparent, open, and know that no-one intends to cause offence

Length of membership

Membership of the Advisory Group will be for 12 months in the first instance.

Membership is voluntary and members may withdraw from the role at any time; the study lead will be available to discuss any issues and look at ways of supporting continued involvement where possible if a member needs to withdraw.

Time commitment

The Advisory Group will meet online on the following dates and times (please try your best to make or send representation to these dates):

1. Thursday 2nd November 2023 (10-12.30pm)
2. Friday 26th April 2024 (2-4pm)
3. Summer/Autumn 2024 - group members to decide date + time

Declaration of interests

All Advisory Group members are required to declare if they have any interests that might conflict with the work of the Group. A conflict of interest does not stop you from being a member of the Group. However, it does mean that you cannot take part in any discussions or decisions made on an issue where you have a conflict of interest.

Confidentiality

Advisory Group members must not communicate any confidential sensitive information that they learn as a result of being a member.

However, there may be occasions when members are specifically asked to share information and findings from the research study within their own teams, wider stakeholders, or organisations, or seek the opinions and views of others.