



Welcome to our latest Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) Leicestershire newsletter.

Welcome to the fourth HDRC Leicestershire newsletter.

We are now over six months into the official first year of our funding, and are making progress across our pillars of culture change. We have finished recruiting to [our team](#), completed naming and defining our [research priorities](#) and are looking forward to our second annual staff research conference.

This newsletter will focus on the work within our first pillar, Public and Community Involvement, Engagement, and Participation (PCIEP).



Introduction to Public and Community Involvement, Engagement and Participation (PCIEP)

At HDRC Leicestershire, we believe that the best research is created *with* communities, not just *for* them. PCIEP means bringing people's voices, experiences, and ideas into the heart of our work. This approach ensures our research reflects real priorities and leads to meaningful change.

PCIEP is not an "add-on" but a core pillar of our HDRC's mission. It ensures that the collaboration between local authorities, academic partners, and public services is grounded in the voices of the communities we serve. By embedding PCIEP throughout our work, we:

- Strengthen the legitimacy and impact of HDRC Leicestershire research.
- Support the translation of evidence into policies and services that communities recognise as meaningful.

- Contribute to reducing health inequalities by amplifying the perspectives of those whose voices are least heard.

At HDRC Leicestershire, the key staff involved in this pillar are Sacha Webb (PCIEP Research and Insight Manager) and Cecily Henry (Public Co-applicant). They work closely with the rest of the team to ensure there are meaningful involvement and engagement opportunities for the public to get involved.

To find out more about this work please email sacha.webb@leics.gov.uk

The engagement story so far

Since 2024 we have:

- Created a [public advisory group \(PAG\)](#)
- Hosted a [public assembly](#) with the purpose of bringing together a diverse community voice to help set the research priorities for HDRC Leicestershire
- Undertook [three school engagements](#) with the same purpose as the public assembly but capturing the voice of our young people
- Visited local community groups, hearing from our public what matters most to them
- Engaged with Leicestershire County Council's After Care Council, sharing HDRC initiatives, extending opportunities and getting guidance on how to share our messages with young people



Introducing the Public Advisory Group

The Public Advisory Group (PAG) brings together people with lived experience from across the community to act as partners in our HDRC work. They are not token participants they are co-creators who help shape priorities, review proposals, and advise on how we communicate findings.

Our PAG is made up of eight public members. They bring a wide range of experience and viewpoints and have been a vital cog in helping HDRC Leicestershire shape how public voice is heard and acted upon.

Watch [this vlog](#), with reflections from one of our PAG members, David, as he talks about what public involvement means to him.



What's next?

As HDRC Leicestershire continues to develop, our PCIEP work is growing too. We are embedding PAG members in task groups throughout HDRC Leicestershire, including communications meetings, governance, and conference planning.

In September we held a HDRC Leicestershire PCIEP Strategy Day with our PAG, researchers, and partners. This event focussed on co-developing our PCIEP strategy: a shared plan for how we will continue to embed public voices into every stage of the research process. We are grateful to everyone who has already contributed and look forward to building this strategy together. The strategy will be publicly available to view on our website in early 2026.

We are currently updating our public voice webpages with introductions from our PAG members, keep an eye on our LinkedIn page for further updates.

[Follow our new LinkedIn page!](#)

Contact us

If you would like to find out more about the HDRC, sign up to our newsletter or contact us, please visit our website or email hdrc@leics.gov.uk.