

## **NIHR Child Health and Maternity Priority programme FAQs**

**Q:** How will delays due to COVID be considered and should we be focusing on COVID?

**A:** As there are other programmes that have been set up to specifically deal with COVID we should try not to focus on COVID in this programme. There may be some flexibility around COVID delays within the three-year programme, but details have not been finalised yet.

**Q:** Is there a nominal limit on how many ideas an individual ARC (Applied Research Collaboration) might submit?

**A:** No there are no limits, however only 3-4 projects will be selected overall.

**Q:** How would interventions that are community and place based, and people powered be viewed?

**A:** We are interested in interventions that operate within the community, that are thinking from social care and public health perspectives, however, we do need to be realistic about how complex an intervention we are able to implement and evaluate in this programme.

**Q:** How do you plan to explore the possibility of joint projects with another national priority group?

**A:** At this stage of submission we will start to connect those suggestions across our network where we see that there is potential for organisations to work together. We will be sharing our list of submitted suggestions with other priority programme leads and those that are not adopted will also be shared with the NIHR prioritisation process.

**Q:** Is there anything different about how treatment costs are dealt with in an ARC context, compared with other NIHR funded studies?

**A:** We will not be eligible for additional research support costs under this programme. However, we are working with the Clinical Research Network (CRN) to explore applying for excess treatment costs for the interventions, where required.

**Q:** How strong does evidence of efficacy need to be for an intervention to be considered?

**A:** The intervention should have convincing evidence of efficacy and some evidence of “implementability”.

**Q:** For the outline stage due November 6th, is it expected that the final full research team, participating services and ARCs will be finalised?

**A:** No, we are looking for interventions that could be implemented but full team and partnerships can be developed as the programme goes on.

**Q:** Are applications related to the deliverables of the NHS England long term plan or other strategic plans more likely to be positively considered?

**A:** Possibly, you are more likely to get buy in from services if they meet the key deliverables.

**Q:** How will this programme go beyond focusing on health inequalities and consider issues faced by diverse populations?

**A:** We would like to work on projects that address the people and the groups who are bearing the largest burden.

**Q:** What will the funding pay for?

**A:** The funding aims to deliver research outputs – these might be related to effectiveness or to the methods of implementation of the intervention. We cannot pay for delivery of the service but we will support an application for excel treatment costs where this is appropriate.