



LAPH-Research Network (London North & Thames)

5 Dec 2022 2-3:30pm (zoom)

Attendees: Ian Basnett, Janine Bestall, Silvie Cooper, Julie George, Ana-Catarina Pinho-Gomes, Ayanna Griffith, Greg Hartwell, Emily Humphreys, Elaine Kingwell, Alex Levitas, Kerry Lonergan, Vaishnavee Madden, Logan Manikam, Dalya Marks, Sandra Mounier-Jack, Clair Mulrenan, Caroline Norrie, Sandra O'Sullivan, Arti Sharma, Manuji Sharma, Helen Skirrow, Pauline Swift, Simon Twite, Jennifer Yip.

Chairs: Leonora Weil, Jessica Sheringham

Secretariat: Kim Airey

Support for applying for research funding

The Zoom recording from this session provides an overview of funding opportunities/avenues in the London and North Thames area for different levels of a research career.

View the Zoom recording on:

<https://ucl.zoom.us/rec/share/FDUgCssInNMAAtNyYgYJHgjcwY2TkYYK6VE9Wq2giPyr0fQzzjJeDxGtuRjqJSsCw.NFiAx2xmBHTdiJpQ?startTime=1670248226000>

Passcode: Jmh2TA*?

Duration: ~52 mins

The notes below give a few highlights and anchors to the Zoom recording.

LA SPARC

Short Placement Award for Research, Collaboration (SPARC): Silvie Cooper, Academy Lecturer

NIHR ARC North Thames Academy Aim is to enhance individuals' research careers and develop skills and capabilities to co-create research that's meaningful and better connected to practice. It's for up to £15,000 to undertake a bespoke placement. And so that means that you have the space to create something that is suitable for you for the environment that you work with. Usually 1 call per year, and a specific staff for people in local authorities or for researchers looking to get local authority experience. *zoom video: 0-7 minutes (followed by Q&A)*

RDS (Research Design Service) London Elaine Kingwell Senior Adviser at RDS London and a Senior

Research Associate at University College London: support people while they're putting together research funding proposals, including fellowships. They can signpost to suitable funding schemes, advise on research teams, getting the narrative right in an application, interview practice, planning and facilitation of patient and public involvement, too. Covers predoctoral fellowship schemes too.

Presentation slides attached.

zoom video: ~11-30 minutes (followed by Q&A)

[PHRADA](#) (part of RDS) **Janine Bestall, PHRADA Co-Lead and Senior Research Fellow in Applied Health Research, Leeds Institute of Health Sciences.** Set up during the pandemic to support people seeking to apply to the public health research programme funding stream. They can advise on whether the programme is the right funding stream, whether your project is at the right stage, how to maximise your chances and signpost to other streams if not. Also highlighted some alternative schemes such as £50k application development schemes
Presentation slides attached.
zoom video: ~ 35-52

Appendix 1: further information on each of the programmes.

Attendee poll results:

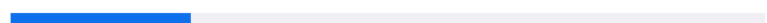
At the start of the meeting, attendees were asked to give their responses to two poll questions to gauge their familiarity with research funding in general and RDS specifically.

1. Have you applied for research funding previously? (Single Choice) *

*

17/17 (100%) answered

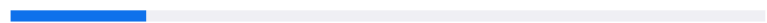
No (4/17) 24%



Yes less than 5 applications (10/17) 59%



Yes more than 5 applications (3/17) 18%

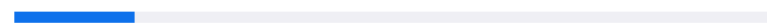


1. How familiar are you with RDS and its services? (Single Choice) *

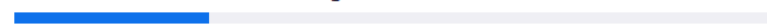
*

19/19 (100%) answered

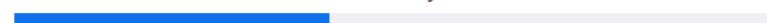
No not aware of RDS (3/19) 16%



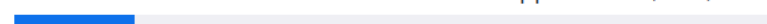
Yes aware of RDS but not sought their advice before (5/19) 26%



Yes aware of RDS and have occasionally used their servi... (8/19) 42%



Yes aware of RDS and use their services for all applicatio... (3/19) 16%



LAPHR network updates:

- **New LAPHRN executive group roles:** Ana-Catarina Pinho-Gomes PH registrars' representative; Simon Twite LA experienced researcher and Somen Banerjee, ADPH lead.
- **'NEW: idea planning surgery':** members who have research in progress, research they are looking to expand or priorities that might benefit from research or evaluation. Nothing has to be fully formed – but do share some information about the problem in advance, and come with open discussion questions and collaboration to be raised.

Will be starting in February with the first two projects on:

Food banks and food poverty.

Air traffic and pollution/air quality.

ACTION: Please indicate which of the two break out groups you would like to join to discuss the research ideas further.

ACTION: Please notify Kim of any topics you would like to bring to a future planning surgery.

Research training and funding opportunities:

RDS, Social Care research residential grant development and writing retreat, available for those wishing to apply for research grants such as RfSC or HS&DR but not personal awards. Further information can be found:

<https://www.rds-london.nihr.ac.uk/events/social-care-retreat-2023/>

ARC North Thames Academy Predoctoral Speed Mentoring Breakfast. Further information can be found:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/predoctoral-speed-mentoring-breakfast-tickets-473929214037>

NIHR current funding opportunities available ALL close 04/04/23:

[22/558 Palliative and end of life care \(PHR Programme\)](#)

[22/556 Children and young people's mental health \(PHR Programme\)](#)

[22/555 Public Health Research Programme researcher-led](#)

[22/554 Continuing priority research topics of interest to the PHR Programme](#)

[22/553 NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling call \(PHR Programme\)](#)

[22/552 NIHR NICE rolling call \(PHR Programme\)](#)

[22/551 Interventions to promote mental health and wellbeing among young women](#)

Dates of next meeting

6th February 2:00 – 3:30 <https://ucl.zoom.us/j/92078223226>

Previous meeting notes:

All previous notes can be found on the ARC North Thames Website: <https://www.arc-nt.nihr.ac.uk/get-involved/providers-and-commissioners/>

NIHR ARC North Thames newsletter:

If you would like to sign up to receive the ARC North Thames newsletter sharing research updates, course opportunities and other news items please do [sign up here](#).

Appendix:

PHRADA: Public Health Research Applications and Design Advice (PHRADA) is provided by the NIHR RDS across England to support applicants to develop competitive applications to the NIHR Public Health Research (PHR) programme.

The PHRADA team support applicants interested in applying to selected PHR commissioned calls. We tailor our support to each applicant. Examples of support include:

- Providing advice on the proposed focus and methods of the research idea
- Support identifying appropriate collaborators
- Running a small grant scheme to provide funding to undertake public involvement activities
- Reviewing draft applications
- Add the link to the website as a resource

RDS London: The Research Design Service (RDS) offers a free, confidential service to new and experienced research teams that supports clinicians, health and social care professionals and academics to develop high-quality, competitive funding applications for applied health, public health, and social care research.

RDS provide tailored support and guidance from initial idea through to final application through:

- Guidance and expertise on study design and research methods
- Helping you identify suitable funding streams
- Supporting you to plan and facilitate your public involvement
- Helping you get the narrative right
- Interpreting your feedback and supporting resubmissions.

LA SPARC: This scheme is designed to support individuals working in local authority settings and NIHR Academy members to design and apply for funds to undertake short placements allowing them to move between NIHR and Local Authority settings in either direction.

The scheme supports:

- Individuals based in a local authority setting who would like to undertake a short placement in a part of the NIHR/academia. This may appeal to those who are interested in enhancing their careers, in experiencing research from a different perspective or taking the next step in developing a practice academic career.
- NIHR Academy members supported in a part of NIHR Infrastructure, a HPRU or an NIHR School who would like to undertake a short placement in a local authority/provider of local authority commissioned service setting. This may appeal to individuals who want to work alongside service commissioners and providers to hear the issues and challenges being faced at the local level, to share knowledge and experience and look to co-create research that is better connected with practice, as well as developing partnerships and joint ways of working.