

**Tokenism: interactive resource to prompt discussion about how tokenistic approaches to public involvement might be avoided based on the findings from the PiiAF study group's Delphi research**

### *Summary*

*About: This resource is designed to stimulate discussion and debate about tokenism within public involvement and how to avoid it*

*What: The resource contains instructions and parts for a card-sorting game.*

*Who: For people who would like to find a practical and interesting way of discussing tokenism within public involvement*

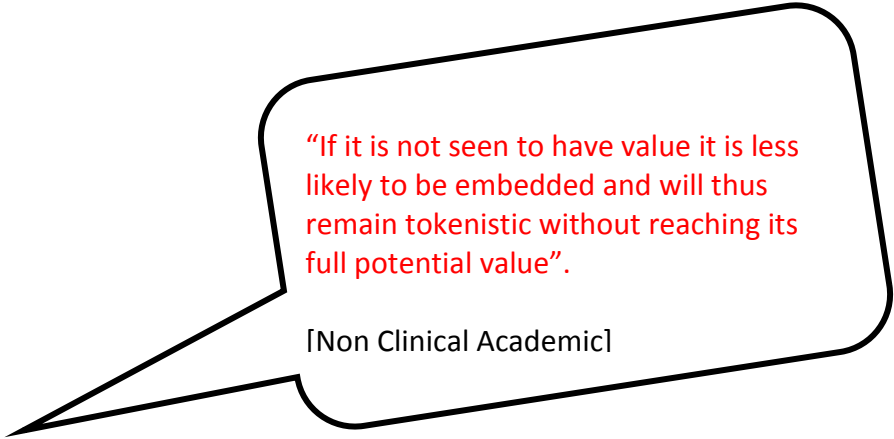
*How: Assemble the game and follow the instructions for playing. Use the card sorting resource as an opportunity to discuss issues around approaches to public involvement and their impacts*

# **TOKENISM GAME**

## *Introduction*

Findings from our recently conducted modified Delphi survey suggest that tokenism in public involvement (PI) when practiced in health and social care research represents a self-fulfilling prophecy. For example PI, when undervalued, leads to tokenism in research practice, PI tokenism fails to demonstrate value, thus, PI is perceived as not adding value to health and social care research.

In responding to this issue, this resource pack provides members of your research team with the opportunity to think about and talk about how best to meaningfully engage members of the public in your research project.



“If it is not seen to have value it is less likely to be embedded and will thus remain tokenistic without reaching its full potential value”.

[Non Clinical Academic]

In this resource pack you will find a set of 6 cards which you can use as discussion prompts to facilitate thinking and debate around how to avoid PI tokenism in research.

On the front of each card (colour code red) is a key PI aim that signifies ‘what needs to happen’ in order to make PI more than just tokenistic. On the back of each card (colour code blue) there are a set of prompts to facilitate discussion about potential actions/resource provision required to achieve the aim. Some of the aims and the actions likely require project-specific consideration/resource provision, while others may relate to the wider PI agenda. In some circumstances aims and actions may require both project-specific and wider agenda consideration/resource provision.

Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. However, open discussion will assist in facilitating clarity and understanding around PI implementation and practice

