



Summary of Findings from a review on values and public involvement in research

Summary

<i>About:</i>	<i>This resource provides a brief summary of the values associated with public involvement in research</i>
<i>What:</i>	<i>The resource summarises the findings from our evidence review. We identified three broad categories of values associated with: ethical and/or political issues; the consequences of public involvement and issues associated with best practice</i>
<i>Who:</i>	<i>For project teams who would like to identify and surface the values associated with public involvement that may be held by different team members</i>
<i>How:</i>	<i>Use the summary to facilitate the identification and discussion of values within the project team</i>

Introduction

Our review identified three value systems associated with public involvement in health and social care research:

1. Ethical and/or political issues associated with public involvement in research that we are calling *Normative*
2. A concern with the consequences of public involvement for research that we are calling *Substantive*
3. Issues associated with best practice in public involvement in research that we are calling *Process-related*

Table 1 below shows these three value systems and the 15 value clusters associated with them. Research teams might use this resource to consider and make explicit the values they attach to public involvement in research and discuss ways in which potential tensions may be acknowledged and addressed in order to maximise the benefits of public involvement for researchers, lay experts and the research (see also the 'Cards on the Table' discussion resource).

Public Involvement Impact Assessment Framework (PiiAF)

Table 1: Overview of Values

Normative	Substantive	Process-Related
Empowerment: Transfer of control, self-help, seeking to overcome discrimination and oppression.	Effectiveness: Public involvement has an effect on research and implementation.	Partnership/Equality: Relationship based upon sharing power and decisions in equal, reciprocal, and collaborative public involvement processes
Rights: Refers to public involvement being of intrinsic value and the fundamental human right to have a say	Quality/Relevance: Increasing the appropriateness and credibility of research through public involvement	Respect/Trust: Respecting diversity, values, skills, knowledge, and experience in mutually beneficial public involvement processes
Change/Action: The idea of generating or translating knowledge into action in order to bring about change	Validity/Reliability: Increasing the scientific rigour of knowledge and measurement instruments through public involvement	Openness/Honesty/Flexibility/Commitment: Processes and attitudes being open, honest, flexible, and committed to public involvement
Accountability/Transparency: Public involvement involves clarifying the relationship between the research and wider society	Representativeness/Objectivity/Generalisability Representative, objective, and generalisable knowledge through public involvement	Independence: Research teams achieving their objectives away from managerial control; in research team interactions through autonomous voices and actions
Ethical values: Ethical awareness in order to protect from harm	Evidence base: Generating a substantial and rigorous evidence base about public involvement	Clarity: Purpose, processes, communication, and definition of public involvement made available to all