

Targeting Health Needs Funding Call 2023/24

Guidance for Applicants - Closing Date Friday, 4th November

Introduction

The Targeting Health Needs (THNs) funding call is open to applications with funding to be awarded in 2023/24. The total spend for this call has been capped at £215,000. Due to contractual arrangements, funding will be for one year only and each bid cannot exceed £30,000.

The focus of the THNs funding call 2023/24 will be expanding the reach of NIHR Portfolio studies to under-served communities within the North East and North Cumbria (NENC) - ***Bringing clinical and applied research to under-served communities with major health needs.***

This call will be open to the following regional priority areas:

- Mental health - including applications that may be hosted outside of mental health teams e.g. mental health in a specialty or following a particular physical health event
- Dementia care - including applications with a community/social care aspect
- Improving population health - prevention, early detection and effective management of the biggest causes of premature mortality: cancer, cardiovascular, diabetes, respiratory disease and obesity
- Deprived (Deep End) and hard to reach communities with major health needs

These areas have been identified following consultation with the Applied Research Collaboration (ARC), Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) and considering the [priorities](#) of the Integrated Care System North East and North Cumbria.

Applications;

- Should define the under-served community they plan to engage
- Are encouraged to use learning from the [scoping report](#) to engage with under-served communities and/or specialty areas.

Should previous applicants wish to apply it is recommended that they contact penny.williams@nihr.ac.uk prior to submitting an application.

Key objectives of the awards

- To facilitate delivery of research
- To increase recruitment to NIHR Portfolio studies;
 - Within a geography that has previously been under-served by research activity
 - In more than one regional partner organisation
 - Within at least one specialty area including primary care, public health and social care

CRN NENC will give preference to bids which:

- Look to extend recruitment/add new recruitment sites to an existing NIHR Portfolio study which supports the aim of conducting research in areas which have been historically under-served by research activity or where there is an unmet need
- Target more than one priority area e.g cross specialty/setting working
- Engage meaningfully with the under-served communities within the NENC region
- Can show collaboration with other organisations, specialties, NIHR platforms, charities and the voluntary sector to develop their bids
- Use digital technologies, remote care or digital recruitment strategies to enhance their recruitment potential.
- Have been co-funded, or are in the process of being co-funded. Research Delivery Awards or other CRN NENC funding sources are not considered as co-funding.

Funding principles

This funding is part of the CRN NENC core funding allocation. As such, the principles which apply to other elements of infrastructure funding also apply here. The following should be considered before making an application:

- Each bid must not exceed £30,000 spend
- All costings must be within the Agenda for Change (the main NHS pay system)/Higher Education Institution salary range
- Successful applicants are expected to report on the progress of their project (mid and year end) to achieve one or more of the key objectives
- Funding;
 - Must be used in line with agreed budget plan
 - Must be used within 2023/24 and cannot be carried over
 - Must be used for NIHR study delivery only
 - Should not in any way be used to contribute to commercial research

Applicants are asked to provide contact details for Finance and/or Contracting links for the organisation to which funds will be transferred should the application be successful.

THNs awards cannot be used to fund:

- Employer on costs
- Estates/indirects
- Computer hardware, software, licencing
- Workshop and/or training events
- Venue hire
- Refreshments
- Vouchers (participants)
- Transcription costs
- Advertising/promotional materials
- R&D fees
- Travel expenses
- Mobiles

Support

Potential applicants are encouraged to discuss their applications with the relevant Specialty Lead, Research Delivery Manager, Research Operations Manager in advance of making a submission. Contact details can be found in Appendix 1.

Awards process and timeline

Process

Please apply using the online [application form](#). Applications will close on **4th November 2022**.

Applications will:

- Show likely positive impact on;
 - Recruitment in area of priority health need and/or
 - Work in a new setting or accessing an under-served research population
 - Evidence of engagement and collaboration with relevant Partner organisations, specialty group, Primary care/Public Health/Social Care/non-NHS organisations (if appropriate)
 - How applicants intend to mitigate risk of underspend
- Require sign off by R&D Director/Manager, organisational lead or proposed budget holder.

Bids will be considered by a funding review panel which will include CRN NENC; Clinical Director, Chief Operating Officer, Targeting Strategic Theme Leads, Executive Lay Member and Specialty Group Lead.

Please note: due to the likely number of applications it will not be possible to provide specific feedback to applicants.

Checklist for applicants

Before an application is submitted, please ensure consideration has been paid to the following aspects;

- Does the proposal clearly meet one of the areas outlined in the guidance?
- What is the planned impact, how will this be measured?
- Are you confident the funding can be spent in-line with your proposal?
- Are you clear who will host this funding, and has the organisation agreed?
- Does this approach have support from the relevant R&D/I department?
- Is this fully and correctly costed with a financial breakdown, staff grades etc?

Timeline

Date	Action
12/10/2022	Targeting Health Needs funding call opens
4/11/2022	Call closes to applications
By 11/11/2022	Funding review panel convened to consider applications
16/11/2022	CRN NENC Executive decision making board
By 22/12/2022	Applicants, R&D Directors/Managers, Specialty Group Leads, Research Delivery Managers/Research Operation Managers advised of outcome
1/04/2023	Awards commence
By 31/10/2023	Awardees provide mid-year review of progress
31/03/2024	Awards complete spend

Appendix

Specialty	Specialty Lead	Research Delivery Manager	Research Operations Manager	
Ageing	Claire McDonald claire.mcdonald2@nhs.net	Gillian Johnson gillian.johnson@nibr.ac.uk	Bev Marshall bev.marshall@nibr.ac.uk	
Dermatology	Dr Shymal Wahie shyamal.wahie@nhs.net			
Liver (Hepatology)	Dr Steven Masson steven.masson@nhs.net			
Neurological Disorders	Dr James Miller james.miller18@nhs.net			
Gastroenterology	Dr Simon Panter simon.panter@nhs.net			
Infection & Microbiology	Dr Ashley Price david.price15@nhs.net			
Respiratory Disorders	Dr John Steer John.steer@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk			
Primary Care	Dr Justine Norman justine.norman@nhs.net	Hilary Allan hilary.allan@nibr.ac.uk	Laura Renwick laura.renwick@nibr.ac.uk	
Health Services Research	Dr Yitka Graham yitka.graham@sunderland.ac.uk	Justine Smith justine.smith@nibr.ac.uk	Kim Shirley kim.shirley@nibr.ac.uk	
Cardiovascular Disease	Prof. Kim Spyridopoulos ioakim.spyridopoulos@newcastle.ac.uk	Nicky Cunningham nicky.cunningham@nibr.ac.uk	Joanne Henderson joanne.henderson@nibr.ac.uk	
	Dr David Austin david.austin@nhs.net			
Kidney Disorders (Renal Disorders)	Dr Edwin Wong Edwin.Wong1@nhs.net			
	Dr Chris Harding c.harding@nhs.net			
Diabetes	Dr Patrick Holmes patrickholmes@nhs.net			
Metabolic and Endocrine Disorders	Dr Salman Razvi salman.razvi@newcastle.ac.uk			Nicola Coverdale nicola.coverdale@nibr.ac.uk
Cancer	Dr Helen Marr helen.marr2@nhs.net			Penny Williams penny.williams@nibr.ac.uk
Haematology	Dr Mari Kilner mari.kilner@nhct.nhs.uk			

Public Health and Prevention		Sharon Dorgan sharon.dorgan@nibr.ac.uk	
Social Care	Ruth McGovern r.mcgovern@newcastle.ac.uk	Clare Aitken clare.aitken@nibr.ac.uk	Kim Shirley kim.shirley@nibr.ac.uk
Children and Young People	Dr Arshid Murad arshid.murad@nhs.net	Steve Pratt steven.pratt@nibr.ac.uk	Nicola Coverdale nicola.coverdale@nibr.ac.uk
Dementias and Neurodegeneration (DeNDRon)	Dr Bob Barber robert.barber@cntw.nhs.uk		Kim Shirley kim.shirley@nibr.ac.uk
Mental Health	Professor David Ekers david.ekers@nhs.net		
Genomics and Rare Diseases (Genetics)	Jorde Manera Jorde.manera@nhs.net		Bev Marshall bev.marshall@nibr.ac.uk
Reproductive Health	Dr Aethele Khunda aethele.khunda@nhs.net		Joanne Henderson joanne.henderson@nibr.ac.uk
Anaesthesia, Perioperative Medicine and Pain Management	Dr Iain McCullagh I.mccullagh@nhs.net		
Critical Care	Dr Tony Rostron anthony.rostron@nhs.net	Susan Ridge susan.ridge@nibr.ac.uk	Nicola Coverdale nicola.coverdale@nibr.ac.uk
Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT)	Mr David Hamilton david.hamilton3@nhs.net		
Oral and Dental Health	Dr Chris Vernazza chris.vernazza@nhs.net		
Musculoskeletal Disorders - Orthopaedics	Dr David Townshend David.Townshend@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk		Deborah Jackson deborah.jackson@nibr.ac.uk
Musculoskeletal Disorders - Rheumatology	Dr David Coady d.coady@nhs.net		
Trauma and Emergency Care	Dr Mark Harrison mark.harrison@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk		
Ophthalmology	Mrs Deepali Varma deepali.varma1@nhs.net		
Surgery	Mr Bob Slight bob.slight@nibr.ac.uk		Bev Marshall bev.marshall@nibr.ac.uk