

A Research and Innovation Hub Enables Residents to Live Better and Longer Lives

Authors

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1. About Hertfordshire & West Essex ICS

HWE ICS plans and delivers services for 1.6 million residents. We aim to be a national leader in research and innovation, redesigning services to meet local priorities inclusively.



2. Setup and Purpose of the Research and Innovation Hub

Launched in January 2024 and based at the University of Hertfordshire, the Hub supports delivery of the **H&WE Research and Innovation Strategy**. It is a multi-sector collaboration bringing together NHS Trusts, voluntary and private sector partners, and the University's research expertise to drive transformation across the system.

Scan to view the strategy



3. The Research and Innovation Hub Team

Two research coordinators and managerial support, funded through the University of Hertfordshire ICS Partnership Programme.



From left to right: Dr Phillip Smith, Dr Lisa Whiting, Dr Rebecca Hadley, Dr Sharon Mutare, Fiona Smith

4. Key Activities Aligned to the Strategy



Inclusion:

2 advisory sessions, 3 workshops (120+ UH students), REN programme



Communication:

Websites, newsletters, UH student teaching sessions, blog in progress



Research Portfolio:

NHS research review, advice service, UH expertise mapping, doctoral pathway



Research Workforce:

Training & evaluation guides, ICB learning session, workforce assessment in progress

5. Benefits to our Residents

Enhanced Healthcare Services

More Inclusive Research

Increased Community Involvement

Workforce Development

Improved Health Outcomes

Economic Benefits

6. Our Learning

Developing and sustaining a culture of research and innovation requires strong partnerships, inclusive engagement, and a clear strategy.

The **Research and Innovation Hub** provides structured support and fosters shared learning to drive research and innovation that improves health and wellbeing outcomes for residents across Hertfordshire and West Essex.