



Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Research

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Research was launched in November 2024. The centre combines expertise from the University of Hull with those of our partners King's College London, University of York and our collaborators University of Kent, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust and Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust to increase capacity of research across the region and nationally.

Our target area covers a population of 1.7 million people from cities, market towns, rural villages and coastal communities across the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) area.

The aim of this new centre is to develop and deliver addiction and mental health research at the University of Hull so services, communities and individuals benefit. We will target national priorities and the mental health needs of our local population, resulting in better access to care and treatment that works.

Our plan involves individuals with lived experience of addiction and mental health problems as well as local groups. Patients and the public will be involved in the development of our research, helping us to understand the results of our projects, and how to effectively communicate research findings with target audiences.

There are three themes within our research, but we are making contact regarding the following theme:

Improving care pathways and outcomes for young people with substance use and mental health problems. We aim to improve care pathways for young people (i.e. 10-18 years) with substance use and mental health problems who often miss out in getting the help they need.

Within this theme of research, we aim to establish the needs of young people attending specialist and non-specialist care in order to identify and trial an intervention which addresses substance use and mental health in young people.

A key part of this work is <u>patient and public involvement</u> and community engagement. We are establishing a group of key stakeholders who can provide insights into the needs of young people and the feasibility of such interventions within current systems. We are also developing lived experience advisory groups with children and young people to shape the research based on first hand perspectives.

If you are a professional within the field or work closely with young people relevant to this project, we would love to arrange a chat. Please contact **Ayisja** (**Patient and Public Involvement & Engagement Co-ordinator**) at the email below:

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