The NIHR Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme

Applying for research funding

The Health Services and Delivery Research (HS&DR) Programme

Remit

The HS&DR Programme funds research to produce evidence on the quality, accessibility and organisation of health services. This includes evaluations of how the NHS might improve delivery of services. The HS&DR Programme is particularly interested in funding large studies of national importance – please visit our website for further details www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/hsdr/remit

What the HS&DR Programme can offer you

- Full and appropriate funding with no defined upper limit
- Expert monitoring and support during the project
- Access to the Trial Managers' Network (where applicable)
- Full publication in the NIHR Journals Library.

Eligibility and funding information is printed on the back cover of this leaflet. However, applicants should always check the programme website and call specification documents for full details of eligibility requirements.

HS&DR Project focus

How can we manage pain better for inpatients with dementia?

Almost half of patients staying in hospital have some form of dementia and many are likely to be in pain. Patients with dementia often find it difficult to communicate this to staff or to identify location and cause. This ambitious study aims to identify current practice in managing pain for these patients and to develop and test a new tool which can be used on the wards.

Chief investigator:
Professor S J Closs, University of Leeds

Application and Assessment

The HS&DR Programme is committed to funding the highest quality research projects. We believe public involvement in the research is an essential element.

Commissioned workstream:

The programme sets the topic or research question of each call in the commissioning brief.

There are three rounds of commissioned calls per year (though more than one topic may be advertised at once).

Researcher-led workstream:

Funds research questions proposed directly by researchers.

This is an ongoing funding opportunity with three cut-off dates per year for outline applications.

The programme will accept applications on topics or research questions identified by researchers for both primary research and evidence synthesis studies.

We are always happy to answer questions before you start to submit an application. We can talk through any queries about the programme, its remit or your application. Please see the back of the leaflet for our contact details.
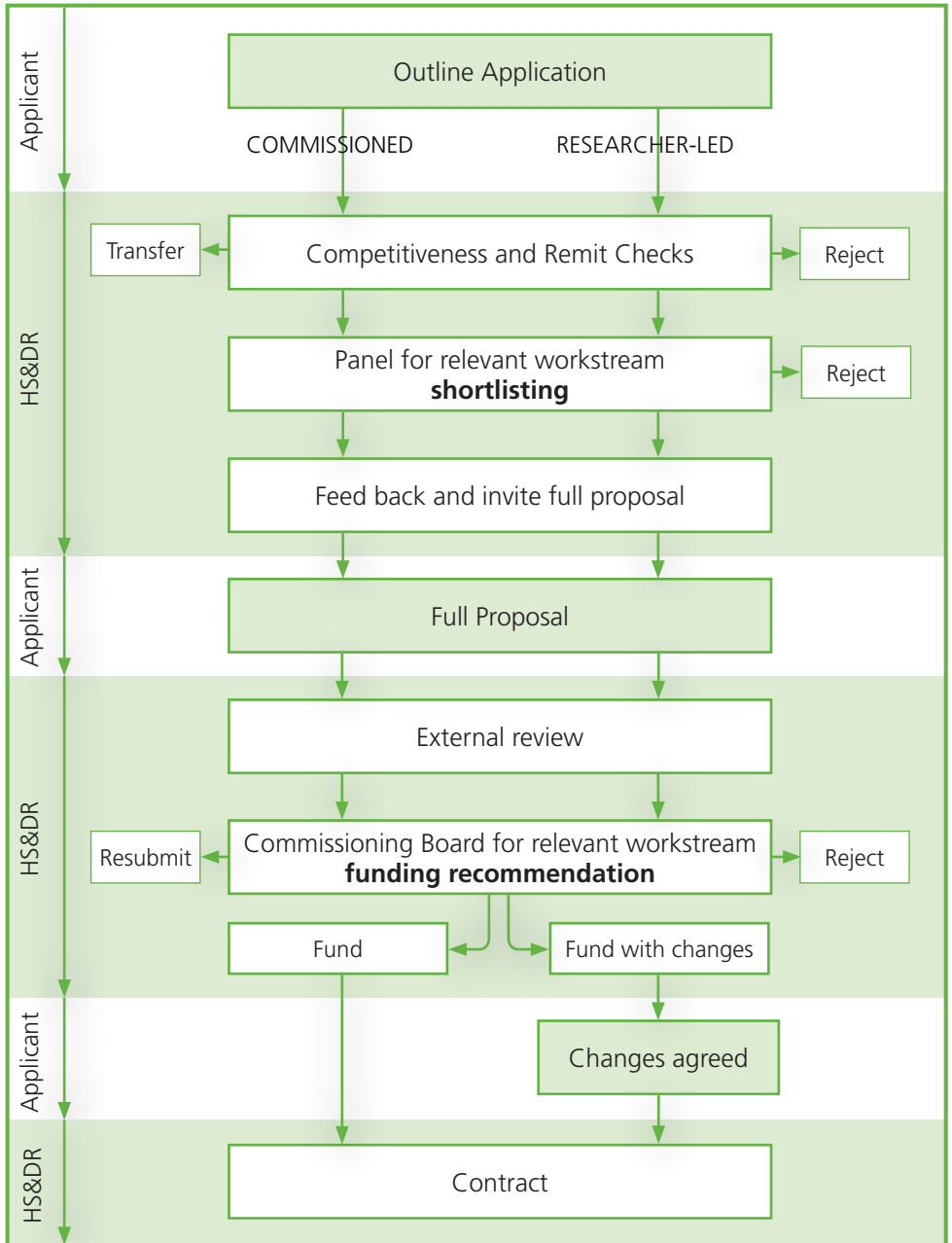

Key selection criteria:

- Will the study lead to significant improvements in health or health services?

- Do the outcomes matter to patients, families, NHS managers and decision-makers?

- Is the proposal methodologically and scientifically sound?

- Is there appropriate public involvement in the design and conduct of the study?

- Does the group have the skills and experience to complete the project?

- Is the research good value for money?

Application Process

Applications are usually assessed using the two stage process outlined below.

Applicant	Outline Application
	COMMISSIONED RESEARCHER-LED

Transfer ← Competitiveness and Remit Checks → Reject

Panel for relevant workstream **shortlisting** → Reject

Feed back and invite full proposal

Full Proposal

External review

Resubmit ← Commissioning Board for relevant workstream **funding recommendation** → Reject

Fund ← → Fund with changes

Changes agreed

Contract

HS&DR / Applicant / HS&DR / Applicant / HS&DR

What to do next

Keep up with the latest calls

Information about our funding opportunities is available on our website at www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/funding/hsdr

You can sign up for HS&DR Programme funding alerts and bulletins by emailing us at hsdrinfo@southampton.ac.uk. Please give your name, job title and organisation in the body of the message.

Follow us on Twitter @OfficialNIHR

External reviewing for the HS&DR Programme

The HS&DR Programme relies upon the help of large numbers of expert reviewers and advisory board members - clinicians, methodologists, NHS managers and public contributors to review and assess the research proposals it receives.

If you would like to support HS&DR Programme's work in this way, please visit the website for more details www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/become-a-reviewer

"The HS&DR staff were proactive, knowledgeable and were there to support and facilitate our research"

Mr Michael Bowen
Director of Research
The College of Optometrists

Suggest a research topic

Topics are identified through active engagement with a wide range of organisations including NICE, patient organisations, health charities and through professional literature searches. Anyone can suggest a topic at any time by emailing hsdrinfo@southampton.ac.uk

Eligibility

Anyone who considers that they can carry out high-quality research is likely to be eligible. If you have any concerns regarding your eligibility to apply we advise that you contact us before completing an application. NETS programmes welcome applications which are within the programmes' remits from all sectors. Applicants are strongly advised to consider establishing partnerships with other relevant sectors or organisations to demonstrate they have the full breadth of expertise to carry out their proposed research in their applications to NETS programmes. Applicants should always check individual call specification documents for any additional eligibility requirements.

The Health Services and Delivery Research Programme is funded by the NIHR with specific contributions from the CSO in Scotland, NISCHR in Wales and the HSC R&D Division, Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland.

Contact: If you have any questions, please contact us using the details below, and a member of the HS&DR Programme team will be happy to help.

HS&DR Programme
National Institute for Health Research
Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre
University of Southampton
Alpha House, Enterprise Road
Southampton SO16 7NS

Tel: 023 8059 4304
Email: hsdrinfo@southampton.ac.uk
Web: www.nets.nihr.ac.uk/hsdr

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton