

NIHR SCHOOL FOR PRIMARY CARE RESEARCH (SPCR)

NIHR Academy Research Capacity Development Contract

Annual Report Feedback 2021/22

Thank you for providing this feedback on research capacity building within the SPCR Annual Report.

- We were particularly pleased to read about the School's ongoing collaboration with the Wellcome Trust, securing 25 PhD studentships and SPCR's intention to continue to inspire, develop and nurture future research leaders from a range of professional groups/disciplines and 'wider primary care' professions; including pharmacists, health visitors, optometrists, dieticians etc. We look forward to seeing how these develop and would also be interested in hearing your plans regarding engagement and recruitment from these professions and communities.
- We were pleased to read that the School's first cohort of 'Primary Care Clinicians Career Progression fellowships' and doctoral fellowships have recently started and the range of research projects they are involved with, and look forward to hearing how these progress. Please do continue to highlight and signpost to complementary NIHR Academy schemes such as the NIHR Advanced Fellowship, as well as our smaller NIHR Infrastructure and School research training awards (the next round of the NIHR SPARC scheme is due to launch at the end of September 2022). Please do let the NIHR Academy know if the School has any future events planned where it might be beneficial to have a member of the team present?
- We note the inclusive approach to the contract demonstrated e.g. training opportunities offered to primary care researchers outside of the SPCR members in relation to the George Lewith Prize for General Practice open to medical undergraduates at any UK medical school.
- We were pleased to read about the mutually beneficial working relationships/collaborations between the three NIHR Schools, in particular in relation to the Three NIHR Schools mental health and dementia programmes and the positive impact this has had extending the SPCR's networks beyond the School members, including a number of third sector organisations. We look forward to hearing more in the next annual report. We also note the ongoing co-hosting of a number of cross School webinars in key topic areas (e.g. 'Improving diversity in research' etc.), and look forward to hearing more about future joint training events going forward.
- We note the welcome addition of a new network developing general practice and community nursing that the School has supported, working closely with a former student and would be interested to hear more about the types of activities and support that is being developed.
- We would be interested to hear the School's plan over the next year to support any broader academic career development competencies to upskill ECRs, such as writing for publication, grant/fellowship writing, presentation skills etc.
- Many thanks for submitting the Schools NIHR Academy member data sheet for 2021/22. As the SPCR now enter the next phase of the contract, we would be grateful, as the mechanisms used to capture academy member data evolve, if you are able to include data for some of the additional fields featured in the data sheet (e.g ORCID ID's, Plain English Summary etc.) over the next year.