

Regeneration programmes

Introduction

The NIHR Public Health Research (PHR) programme evaluates public health interventions, providing new knowledge on the benefits, costs, acceptability and wider impacts of non-NHS interventions intended to improve the health of the public and reduce inequalities in health. Topics for research are identified and prioritised, and studies are commissioned to help answer questions of public health importance. The studies include both primary research and evidence synthesis.

Question

Do regeneration programmes improve public health and reduce health inequalities?

- **Population:** Residents (past/present) of regeneration programmes.
- **Intervention** (non-NHS): Regeneration programmes (public, private or jointly funded). Researchers to specify and justify.
- **Comparator:** Comparable areas where programmes have not been initiated. Researchers to specify and justify.
- **Outcomes:** Health related outcomes at individual and population levels. Researchers to specify and justify.
- **Time:** Researchers to specify and justify.
- **Design:** Primary research. Researchers to specify and justify study design.
- **Setting:** Researchers to specify and justify.
- **Impact on inequalities:** Researchers to specify and justify.

Background to commissioning brief:

The relationship between deprivation and poor health has been well described. Policies and interventions that tackle the causes of poor health have been promoted by the UK and other EU governments as an important component of national strategies to improve health and reduce health inequalities. The need to ground these strategies on evidence has also been highlighted. National programmes of regeneration, such as area based initiatives (ABIs), are one example of large scale investment tackling deprivation and the associated socioeconomic determinants of health.

There is a dearth of evidence linking regeneration or housing investment within regeneration programmes to subsequent sustainable health improvement.

Primary research is required:

- *to address the impact of regeneration on health and health inequalities at an individual and population level,*
- *to consider the impact on the original (resident) population and the effects of population migration,*
- *to consider and measure unintended consequences of regeneration programmes at an individual and population level,*
- *to evaluate the effect of partnerships and leadership on the health impact of regeneration programmes.*

Notes to Applicants

The NIHR Public Health Research programme is funded by the NIHR, with contributions from the CSO in Scotland, WORD in Wales, and HSC R&D, Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland. Researchers in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are eligible to apply for funding under this programme

Applicants are asked to:

1. Read the 'Commissioned proposal guidance notes' <http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/commissioned.asp> in full before starting the online application form.
2. Refer to the Medical Research Council's Complex interventions guidance: <http://www.mrc.ac.uk/Utilities/Documentrecord/index.htm?d=MRC004871> when planning how studies, particularly RCTs, will be supervised. Further advice specific to each topic will be given by the PHR programme at full proposal and contract stages.

If you wish to submit an outline proposal on this question, please complete the online application form at <http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/commissioned.asp>

Applications submitted by the cut-off date of 13:00 on 14 April 2010 and deemed within the PHR programme's remit will be considered by the PHR Research Funding Board at its meeting in 23/24 June 2010. Following this meeting shortlisted outline proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal to be considered by the PHR Research Funding Board in October 2010. Shortlisted applicants will be given a minimum of eight weeks to submit a full proposal.