

**Children and Young People (CYP)  
Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)  
National Collaborative**

# 2nd National Meeting Report



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# Acknowledgements

## Event sponsorship

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## Celebrating our speakers and delegates

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all speakers who generously shared their expertise, experiences, and insights. Their contributions were instrumental in enriching the discussions and deepening our collective understanding of meaningful PPIE.

We also sincerely thank every delegate who took part in the event. Your enthusiasm, active engagement, and thoughtful input, particularly during the interactive session and panel discussions, were truly inspiring. The shared learning and collective insights from this event will continue to inform and shape the future of CYP involvement in health and care research.

For highlights and memorable moments from the event, please refer to Appendix C: Event photos.

## Contacts & Further Information

For more information, or to register your interest in joining the CYP PPIE National Collaborative, please contact:

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# Executive Summary

In November 2024, the inaugural meeting of the Children and Young People Public Participation, Involvement and Engagement (CYP PPIE) National Collaborative convened to address persistent barriers to CYP involvement in health and care research to co-develop sustainable, long-term solutions. The event provided a structured forum for identifying systemic challenges, including ethical complexities, gaps in inclusivity, and funding limitations, and translating these into actionable strategies.

A key outcome of the meeting was the establishment of a national knowledge-exchange network, designed to foster ongoing collaboration across institutions and disciplines. Building on this momentum, a second meeting was held at the University of Liverpool, bringing researchers, practitioners, and creative professionals united by a commitment to advancing meaningful and inclusive CYP involvement in health and care research.

This report presents a summary of the day's presentations, key discussion points, emerging themes, and proposed next steps for the National Collaborative.

## Introduction

The Children and Young People (CYP) Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) National Collaborative is a cross-disciplinary initiative committed to strengthening meaningful CYP participation in research across the UK. While awareness of the value of CYP participation is increasing, current research infrastructures often lack the mechanisms to consistently and effectively embed CYP's voices in ways that are both impactful and sustainable.

Ongoing barriers, such as insufficient institutional backing, disjointed involvement strategies, and reliance on short-term funding, continue to limit CYP's ability to contribute meaningfully to research that directly affects them. In response, the CYP PPIE National Collaborative was formed to establish a unified national framework that fosters interdisciplinary collaboration, enhance research capacity, and ensures CYP and families their families are actively involved in shaping research agendas, methods, and outcomes.

This initiative moves beyond traditional discipline-specific models by promoting cross-sector dialogue among researchers, research delivery professionals, healthcare practitioners, and community facilitators. Its overarching aim is to develop a cohesive, evidence-based approach to CYP participation in health and care research.

The initiative's core aims are to:

- develop a national platform for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and capacity-building among researchers and PPIE practitioners
- provide structured support and resources to help researchers incorporate CYP perspectives into their work
- collaboratively develop involvement and engagement strategies tailored to CYP from diverse backgrounds to enhance accessibility and inclusivity
- develop a sustainable model for CYP participation by integrating PPIE into research frameworks and funding systems

# Agenda overview

The second meeting of the CYP PPIE National Collaborative took place on June 2, 2025, from 9:30AM to 4:00PM at the School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool. The day was structured around two key themes identified during the inaugural meeting, each addressing persistent challenges in CYP involvement in health and care research.

The morning session focused on “Inclusive research with and by CYP”, featuring two keynote presentations and an interactive activity titled “Jenga Justice”, which explored barriers and solutions to meaningful involvement. The afternoon session centered on “Providing research opportunities for CYP” and included two further keynote talks followed by a panel discussion to close the day.

## Morning Session: Inclusive research with and by children and young people

### Project CREATE: Creating Research Ecologies to Advance Transdisciplinary Learning

**Speakers:** Professor Paul Cooke, Dr Crissie Harney, Danelle Lee

This keynote highlighted a pioneering research initiative aimed at addressing unmet needs in transdisciplinary youth mental health research. Prof Paul Cooke gave an overview of the project which explored the untapped potential of integrating arts-based approaches with scientific inquiry and youth perspectives to deepen understanding and engagement in mental health research involving young people.

Danelle Lee then gave an overview of the overall co-production approach, using Living Labs, workshops, focus groups, and setting up a Young Persons’ Advisory Group (YPAG). The team worked with partners from institutions including Falmouth University, University of Kent, University of Oxford, King’s College London, University of Surrey, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University College London, Arts Well and Music for Good. Together, they examined barriers to meaningful young people’s involvement and co-created innovative strategies to overcome them.



Central to the talk was a reflection from Dr Crissie Harney about the CREATE project and the critical role of the YPAG. Key learning points included:

- **navigating complexity:** Balancing the diverse needs of the project, collaborators, and young people proved challenging, especially when trying to plan for every eventuality
- **shifting mindsets:** the research had to ‘unlearn’ rigid academic norms and embrace a more open, exploratory way of working
- **embracing co-production:** True co-production was found to require flexibility, space for experimentation and failure, and a neutral hierarchy that values all voices equally



The case study underscored the importance of relational skills, adaptability, and humility when working with young people in research settings.

The overall presentation offered candid insights into the methods used to recruit, engage, and work transparently with young people, underscoring that without the YPAG, the project would not exist.

### Key Takeaways:

- **prioritise meaningful involvement:** Ensure young people’s involvement is genuinely beneficial to young people, not just to the research outcomes. Involvement should reflect their interests, needs and aspirations
- **embed informed consent throughout:** Treat informed consent as an ongoing process, integrated into all aspects of the project and relationships with young participants, not just a one-time formality
- **celebrate contributions:** Create opportunities for young people to see the impact of their involvement through short to medium-term outputs. Recognise and showcase their contributions to reinforce their value and influence
- **foster flexibility and exploration:** When working with young people, build in space for creativity, adaptability, and open-ended exploration. This supports more authentic and responsive collaboration



# Made by Mortals: Creative approaches to involving and engaging 6- to 10-year-olds in research

**Speaker:** Paul Hine

This keynote showcased the work of Made By Mortals, an organisation that brings lived experience to life through participatory arts, including audio stories, film, music, theatre, and interactive workshops. Their approach centres on co-production, where researchers collaborate with health and social care practitioners, professional artists, and most importantly, diverse communities with lived experience. Through this creative process, research findings are made more inclusive, accessible, and impactful.

The presentation addressed a common frustration among researchers: the disconnect between research processes and the communities they aim to serve. Made by Mortals supports research teams in overcoming this gap by involving lived experience voices not only in data collection but also in the dissemination and mobilisation of findings. This ensures that key messages are shaped and led by those with direct experience, helping research influence practice, policy, and public understanding.

A highlight of the keynote was the Armchair Adventures programme, an award-winning podcast for children aged 6-10. This imaginative, interactive series invites children to sing, act, and move along with each episode, making research involvement fun, accessible, and meaningful. The team shared how this creative format has successfully addressed barriers to involving children in research.

## Key Takeaways:

- **creative co-production enhances inclusion:** Using participatory arts, such as audio, theatre, and music can make research more inclusive and accessible, especially for children and communities with lived experience
- **lived experience should lead the message:** People with lived experience should be central to shaping and communicating research findings, helping to ensure relevance and impact across health and care practice, policy, and public understanding
- **support for researchers:** Researchers often feel disheartened by the exclusionary nature of traditional research processes. Creative collaboration offers a pathway to more meaningful involvement and dissemination
- **Armchair Adventures as a model:** The Armchair Adventures podcast demonstrates how imaginative interactive formats can successfully involve children aged 6-10 in research-related themes, making participation fun and impactful
- **mobilising research through storytelling:** Arts-based approaches are powerful tools for translating research into real-world change, helping findings resonate with diverse audiences beyond academia



# Interactive Session: Jenga Justice

**Facilitator:** Jenny Preston

To finish off the morning session, participants engaged in Jenga Justice, a hands-on, interactive workshop designed to explore the barriers and solutions to engaging diverse groups of children and young people in PPIE activities. Using Jenga blocks to symbolize structural supports and challenges, groups collaboratively identified key barriers, such as limited access to digital tools, cultural disconnects, and lack of representation, and examined the impact of removing these supports on the stability of young people's involvement.



Participants then rebuilt their towers using blocks they labelled with practical solutions, including flexible formats, peer mentorship, and partnerships with trusted community groups. The activity concluded with group reflections, where attendees shared insights and commitments to future practice.

This creative exercise fostered deep discussion, collective problem-solving, and a shared understanding of what it takes to build inclusive, equitable research environments.

## Key themes and insights

### 1. Time and Accessibility

#### Challenges:

- time constraints, scheduling conflicts, and accessibility barriers (e.g., location, digital access)

#### Solutions:

- accurate time planning
- flexibility in scheduling
- making engagement spaces and formats more inclusive (e.g., online, physical, hybrid)
- funding to address digital poverty



## 2. Recruitment and Diversity

### Challenges:

- ensuring diverse representation, reaching underrepresented groups, cultural barriers

### Solutions:

- diversity training
- community outreach (champions, centres)
- inclusive practices (e.g., food, prayer spaces)
- mapping opportunities and sustained relationships



## 3. Ethics, Safeguarding, and Legal

### Challenges:

- ethical complexities, safeguarding concerns, legal ambiguity

### Solutions:

- time to challenge ethics
- risk management planning
- expert advisory input
- co-created safeguarding strategies



## 4. Communication and Language

### Challenges:

- use of jargon, unclear communication, assumptions

### Solutions:

- plain English
- engaging platforms
- asking questions to clarify needs
- inclusive communication strategies



## 5. Digital Barriers

### Challenges:

- lack of internet access, digital skills, device availability

### Solutions:

- funding for devices
- mobile-friendly formats
- support for digital literacy



## 6. Institutional and Structural Barriers

### Challenges:

- bureaucracy, siloed working, rigid structures, lack of institutional support

### Solutions:

- embedding PPIE into culture
- centralised resources
- advocacy and shared learning pipelines
- demonstrating impact beyond traditional metrics



## 7. Engagement and Motivation

### Challenges:

- fear of not fitting in, lack of motivation, exclusion

### Solutions:

- short-term wins
- building trust and relationships
- induction and training for researchers
- visibility and clear communication



## Challenges of PPI with Children and Young People



## 8. Resources and Funding

### Challenges:

- under-resourcing, lack of funding for exploratory work

### Solutions:

- including PPIE in funding applications
- hiring dedicated experts
- recognising the skill and resource requirements



### Cross-Cutting Issues

- **equity of access:** many challenges relate to ensuring equitable access for CYP, especially those most often left out
- **Researcher readiness:** lack of understanding and experience among researchers is a recurring theme
- **Trust and relationships:** building trust through sustained engagement is central to meaningful participation

### Opportunities for Action

- develop training programs for researchers (e.g., Lundy Model, NIHR)
- create centralised platforms for opportunity mapping and communication
- advocate for policy and funding changes that embed PPIE as a core research component
- foster collaborative networks to share best practices and reduce siloed efforts

# Afternoon session: Providing research opportunities for children & young people

## Voiceln: A digital platform to enhance patient and public involvement and engagement in research

**Speakers:** Charlotte Stockton-Powdrell, Amelia Dupuy, Ilina Serafimova, Heidi Tranter

This keynote introduced Voiceln, a digital platform co-designed by young people and researchers to address the limitations of traditional PPIE methods, which often fail to engage younger populations. Recognising that many existing models are adult-centric, Voiceln was developed to make involvement in health research more accessible, inclusive, and responsive to young people's needs.

Available as a smartphone app for young people and a web platform for researchers, Voiceln enables real-time feedback, progress tracking, and ongoing communication between participants and research teams. It supports both short-term and long-term involvement, helping researchers connect with diverse voices and making it easier for the public to contribute to research ideas and outcomes.

A case study shared by a young co-investigator highlighted the value of young people's involvement in the platform development. Motivated by the opportunity to shape real-world research tools, they contributed by offering feedback from a young person's perspective and testing the app's usability and clarity, reinforcing the importance of authentic collaboration.

The team concluded the session by sharing their vision for the future: Voiceln becoming a national digital platform for PPIE across the UK, accessible to all. An interactive design session invited delegates to contribute ideas for new features, further strengthening the platform's co-designed foundation.



## Key Takeaways:

- **young person-centric design is essential:** co-designing tools with young people ensures relevance, accessibility, and genuine involvement
- **technology enables inclusive involvement:** digital platforms like Voiceln simplify involvement and foster sustained engagement in research
- **real-time interaction builds trust:** features such as feedback loops and progress updates help maintain transparency and encourage long-term involvement
- **empowering young co-investigators:** involving young people in testing and development strengthens the usability and impact of research tools
- **vision for scale and accessibility:** Voiceln aims to become a widely accessible national platform, supporting inclusive PPIE across the UK
- **interactive co-design in action:** involving participants in shaping future features reinforces the platform's commitment to participatory development



## Making Connections: Reflections and next steps for children and young person's involvement in NIHR Research Delivery Network

**Speakers:** Heather Slade and Emily Pickering

This keynote highlighted the Making Connections event, supported by [GenerationR](#) and the National Institute for Health and Care Research, which celebrated the growing impact of young people's voice within health and care research. The event provided a platform to explore what meaningful involvement truly means to young people and showcased the progress made in embedding young people's perspectives into research practice.

Key outcomes from the event demonstrated that involving children and young people in research leads to:

- improved care and support tailored to young people's needs
- enhanced relevance and quality of research
- amplification of young people's voices
- meaningful change in health and care systems
- generation of innovative, young person informed solutions

This event also helped identify new opportunities for involving children and young people voices in research design, delivery and dissemination. It reinforced the importance of creating inclusive spaces where young people can actively shape research that affects them.

The keynote concluded with a presentation from the Service Lead for Patient Engagement in Clinical Development (PECD), who outlined the current functions of a commercial engagement service and shared future strategies for integrating children and young people into research processes more effectively.

### Key Takeaways:

- **young person's involvement drives better outcomes:** involving young people in research leads to more relevant, impactful, and young person-centred care and support
- **innovation through inclusion:** young person's involvement fosters creative, forward-thinking solutions to complex challenges
- **expanding opportunities:** events like Making Connections help identify new pathways for young people's involvement across the research lifecycle
- **strategic integration is key:** embedding young people's voice into commercial and institutional research strategies is essential for long-term, meaningful change



## Panel discussion

The day concluded with a panel discussion featuring all keynote speakers, providing attendees with an opportunity to ask questions and reflect on the themes explored throughout the event. Emerging discussions focused on the importance of ethical integrity, transparency, and safeguarding in young people's involvement, with a clear call for standardised guidelines to support safe and inclusive practices. The conversation also addressed the long-term vision and governance of the CYP PPIE National Collaborative, highlighting the need for sustained funding and a dedicated coordinator to ensure continuity and impact.

Participants emphasised the value of interdisciplinary collaboration, the practical tools and examples shared throughout the day, and the potential for ongoing partnerships and support.

As one attendee noted, ***"It's energizing to see the momentum growing in this interdisciplinary space."*** Another reflected, ***"The presentations were both inspiring and practical, a mix of strategy and creativity."*** The panel closed with a shared commitment to resource sharing and collection action, feeding into a movement that should be co-led by children and young people to shape the future of health and care research.

## Conclusion and Next Steps

Involving CYP meaningfully in health and care research requires thoughtful planning, inclusive practices, and strong institutional support. The challenges identified, from time constraints and digital barriers to communication gaps and structural rigidity highlight the need for a coordinated approach to involvement. Encouragingly, the potential solutions outlined throughout the event, such as diversity training, co-created safeguarding strategies, and embedding PPIE into organisational culture, offer a clear path forward.

The day concluded with a powerful panel discussion that reinforced these themes. Keynote speakers and attendees emphasised the importance of ethical integrity, transparency, and safeguarding in CYP involvement, calling for standardised guidelines to support safe and inclusive practices. The conversation also turned toward the future of the CYP PPIE National Collaborative, with a shared vision for sustained funding and a dedicated coordinator to ensure continuity and impact.

Participants celebrated the value of interdisciplinary collaboration, the practical tools shared, and the potential for ongoing partnerships. As one attendee put it, “It’s energising to see the momentum growing in this interdisciplinary space.” The panel closed with a collective commitment to resource sharing and collaborative action, driven by a belief that CYP should co-lead the movement shaping the future of health and care research.



# Appendices

## Appendix A: Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity
9.30 - 10.00	9.30 - 10.00
10.00 - 10.30	Welcome & Icebreaker
<b>Theme 1 - Inclusive research with and by children &amp; young people</b>	
10.30 - 11.20	<b>Project CREATE</b> - Creating research ecologies to advance transdisciplinary learning Speakers: Prof Paul Cooke, Dr Cristina Harney, Danelle Lee
11.20 - 11.50	<b>Made by Mortals</b> - Creative approaches to involving and engaging 6- to 10-year-olds in research Paul Hine
11.50 - 13.00	<b>Activity 1</b> - Jenga Justice: shaping inclusive involvement
13.00 - 13.45	<b>Lunch and networking</b>
<b>Theme 2 - Providing research opportunities for children &amp; young people</b>	
13.45 - 14.15	<b>Voiceln:</b> A digital platform to enhance patient and public involvement and engagement with children and young people in research Speakers: Charlotte Stockton-Powdrell, Amelia Dupuy, Iliina Serafimova, Heidi Tranter
14.15 - 14.45	NIHR Research Delivery Network Coordinating Centre: Making Connections with children and young people Speakers: Heather Slade and Emily Pickering
14.45 - 15.45	Speakers panel discussion
16.05	Closing remarks & next steps

## Appendix B: Conference Presenter Pack

### CYP PPIE National Collaborative Meeting – 2nd June 2025

**First Presentation** – Prof Paul Cooke, Dr Crissie Harney, Danelle Lee  
Project CREATE - Creating Research Ecologies to Advance Transdisciplinary Learning

#### Presenter Biography(s)

Prof Paul Cooke: Principal Investigator of Project CREATE, University of Leeds. In recent years, his work has focused on the use of arts-based practices in adolescent mental health research. This has led him to become involved in the UKRI-funded projects ATTUNE and CREATE.

For Paul, CREATE has been a valuable opportunity to reflect on the diverse contributions of those involved in interdisciplinary, youth-focused work. He has especially learned from the young people at the heart of the project, who truly make it what it is.

Dr Cristina Harney: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Project CREATE, University of Leeds. Crissie has a PhD in Music Psychology focusing on developing a music listening intervention for everyday anxiety in young people. Within her work, she has investigated the effectiveness of individual and group music listening on the alleviation of anxious symptoms. This explored the social functions of music listening and its role during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in several publications.

Danelle Lee: Project Manager and Youth Outreach Lead, Project CREATE, University of Leeds. Danelle has a Masters in Choreography and 17 years working as a teacher and educator as well as youth and community project management and development roles in Australia and the UK. CREATE has provided an incredible opportunity to provide young people with the resource and environment to give their voice to research and issues that directly affect them in ways that are personally meaningful and impactful on the wider issues in youth mental health participatory practice.

#### Contact details

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Website: <https://create.leeds.ac.uk/>

LinkedIn: [Project Create University of Leeds](#)  
Linktr.ee: [https://linktr.ee/project\\_create](https://linktr.ee/project_create)  
Instagram: @ProjectCREATEuk / @Not.SoAlone  
Social media hashtag: #ProjectCREATEuk

#### Useful Links & Resources

Publications:

Williams, E., Glew, S., Newman, H., Kapka, A., Shaughnessy, N., Herbert, R., Walduck, J., Foster, A., Cooke, P., Pethybridge, R., Shaughnessy, C. and Hugh-Jones, S. (2023), Practitioner Review: Effectiveness and mechanisms of change in participatory arts-based programmes for promoting youth mental health and well-being – a systematic review. *J Child Psychol Psychiatr*, 64: 1735-1764. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13900>

## Appendix B: Conference Presenter Pack

### **Second Presentation** – Paul Hine (Made By Mortals)

Creative approaches to involving and engaging 6- to 10-year-olds in research.

### **Presenter Biography**

Before co-founding Made by Mortals (MBM) in 2017, Paul worked for 12 years as a freelance dramatist and project manager using creativity to engage underserved communities and drive social change. During this time, he worked for multiple cultural and social organisations in the Northwest, including The Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester Camerata (orchestra), Cheshire East Council, The Together Trust (children's charity), and Bolton at Home (social housing group.)

As CEO of Made by Mortals (MBM), Paul has supported hundreds of people with a broad range of lived experience to bring their experience to life through participatory arts practice, producing films, audio stories, theatre, music, and interactive workshops. Paul has written and co-written articles about MBM's creative methodology that have been published in Public Money & Management magazine, Child and Adolescent Mental Health journal, and Research Involvement and Engagement journal. Under Paul's leadership and using Made By Mortal's approach, MBM has won Audio Production Awards (Grassroots Production) 2023, Manchester Publicity Awards (Best Audio) 2023, Royal Society of Public Health: Health and Wellbeing Awards (Arts in Health) 2022 Outstanding Contribution to PPIE Awards University of Manchester 2022, British Podcasting Awards (Bronze) 2022, BBC Making a Difference Award (Community) 2022, and Digital City Awards (Best Use of Tech by a Non-profit) 2022.

Paul is an Honorary Research Fellow in Nursing & Midwifery, School of Health Sciences, University of Manchester. Paul is currently co-lead and PPI lead on multiple health and social care research projects and Made by Mortals are delivering their creative approach across the research and health and social care sector.

### Contact details & useful links

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Social media / Website:

Website: <https://www.madebymortals.org>

LinkedIn: Made By Mortals

Facebook: @MadeByMortalsCIC, @armchairadventuresuk

Instagram: @MadeByMortals, @armchairadventuresuk

TikTok: @ArmchairAdventures

Patreon: [Patreon.com/ArmchairAdventures](https://www.patreon.com/ArmchairAdventures)

YouTube: @madebymortals

## Appendix B: Conference Presenter Pack

**Third Presentation** – Charlotte Stockton-Powdrell, Amelia Dupuy, Ilna Serafimova, Heidi Tranter  
Voiceln: A digital platform to enhance patient and public involvement and engagement in research.

### Presenter Biography(s)

Charlotte Stockton-Powdrell (Digital Health Software Lead)

I Lead the Digital Health Software (DHS) team at the University of Manchester, and I have managed multiple digital health projects since 2014. The DHS team co-designs and develops mobile applications and software platforms that are used in health research, with expertise in mental health, respiratory disease and musculoskeletal conditions. I love working with children and young people, because I always learn so much from their valuable contributions and unique and diverse perspectives.

Amelia Dupuy (Voiceln Project Co-investigator):

I am graduating from BSc Psychology at the University of Manchester this summer and currently work as a co-investigator for the Voiceln project. Offering a young person's perspective to the development of this app was an incredible opportunity for me - as someone aspiring to a career in research, I am passionate about making participation more accessible for younger generations. Giving young people the opportunity to shape our understanding of the issues affecting them will have a meaningful impact on CYP research, and I am proud to play a part in facilitating that.

Ilna Serafimova (Digital Health Project Manager, Voiceln)

I recently joined the Digital Health Software team as Digital Health Project Manager for the Voiceln app. I am a Project Manager with over 5 years' experience at The University of Manchester planning, coordinating, and delivering digital health research projects and communications' campaigns. I am passionate about making a difference to the health and well-being, involving people in research and improving the lives of people living with health conditions.

Heidi Tranter (GM. Digital Research Unit Manager, Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust)

I am the GM. Digital Research Unit Manager; my role involves managing and delivering projects and the day-to-day running of the unit. I've previously worked within CAMHS, primary care networks and forensic services, providing therapeutic support to both children and young people and adults. I have been involved in research looking at referrals into CAMHS with GM. Digital, and the effects of experiencing adversity during childhood on emotional resilience. I am a Duke of Edinburgh Approved Volunteer Activity Provider Manager for GM. Digital Young People's Advisory Group, Youth Connection. The aim of this group is to teach young people research skills with a focus on digital mental health.

### Contact details

Charlotte Stockton-Powdrell

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Social Media / Website:

Website: <https://voicein.org/>; [Research Profile](#)

Social media hashtag: #voicein

### Useful Links & Resources

Publications: [JMIR Human Factors - Co-Designing a Digital App to Support Young People's Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement \(Voiceln\): Development and Usability Study](#) 19

## Appendix B: Conference Presenter Pack

### **Fourth Presentation – Heather Slade and Emily Pickering**

Making Connections - Reflections and next steps for children and young person's involvement in NIHR Research Delivery Network

### **Presenter Biography(s)**

Heather Slade is the Strategic Partnerships Lead for the Public Partnerships team. The Strategic Partnerships team lead our stakeholder engagement strategy. They promote the services Public Engagement offers, identify opportunities for collaboration, and build relationships across the research system.

Heather is focused on collaboration and sharing innovative ways of working to improve engagement and involvement in research design and delivery system wide. She has a master's in public policy and management.

Emily Pickering is the Service Lead for the Patient Engagement in Clinical Development (PECD) Service. With extensive experience in project management, clinical trial delivery and engagement facilitation across diverse therapeutic areas, she is passionate about patient and public involvement, engagement and advocacy in research design and communication. She has a master's in clinical trials from the Institute of Clinical Trials and Methodology at University College London.

### **Contact details**

**Mrs. Heather Slade** - [heather.slade@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:heather.slade@nihr.ac.uk) - NIHR RDNCC

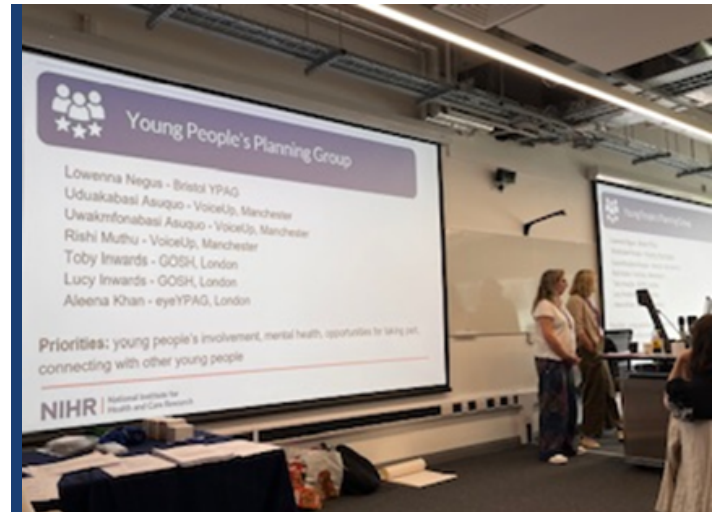
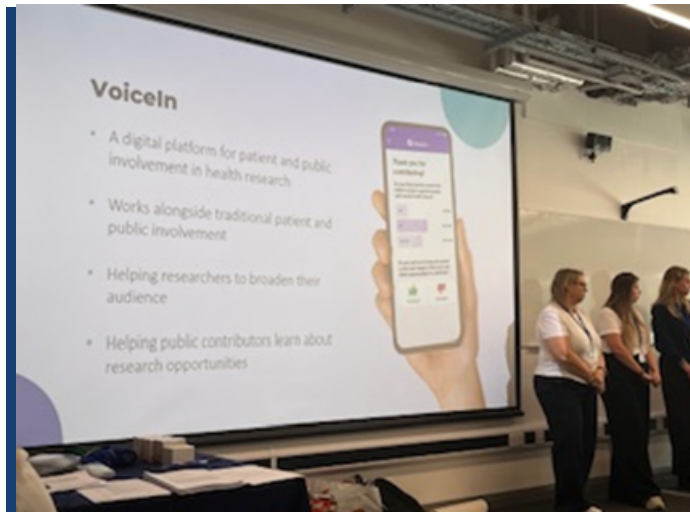
**Mrs. Emily Pickering** - [emily.pickering@nihr.ac.uk](mailto:emily.pickering@nihr.ac.uk) NIHR RDNCC

### **Useful Links & Resources**

<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/patient-engagement-clinical-development-service-further-information-life-sciences-organisations>

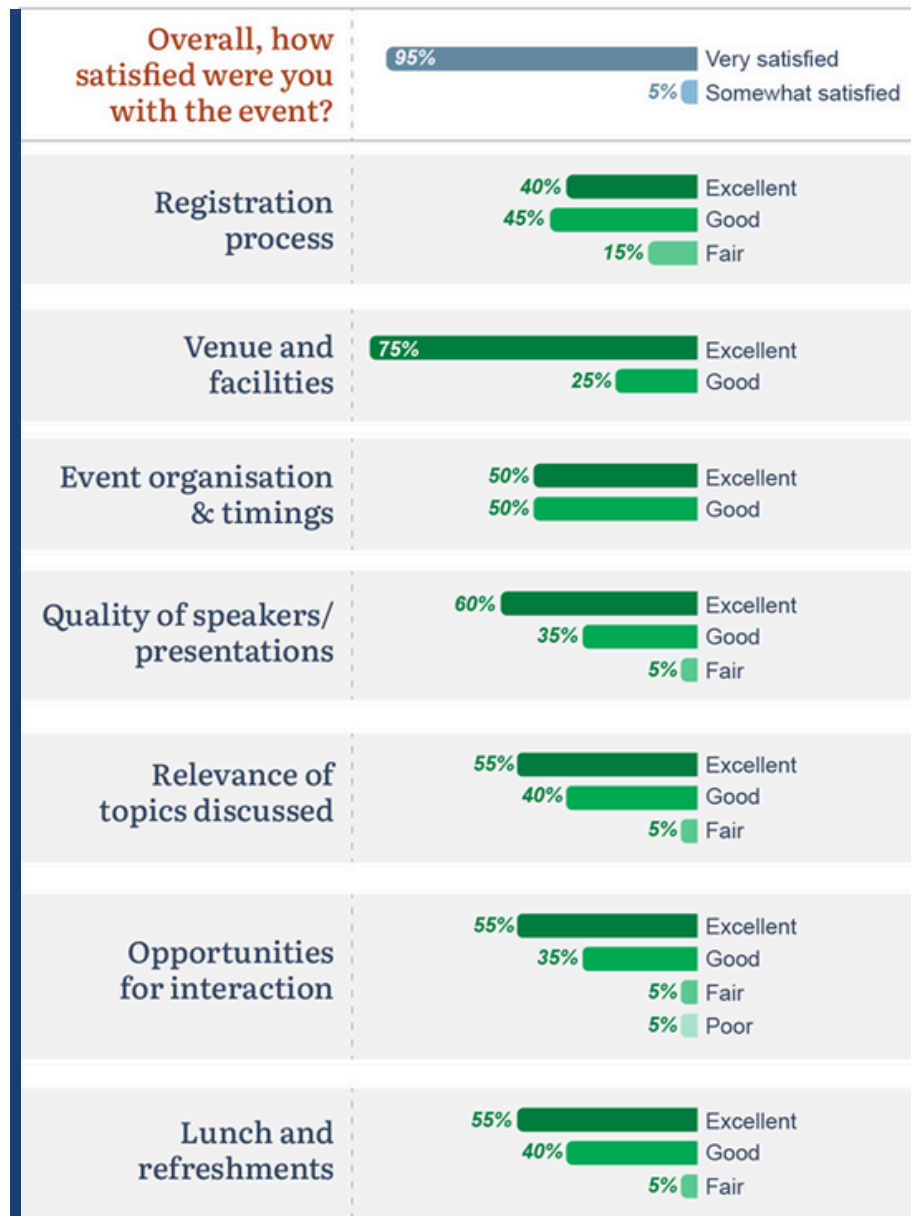
<https://www.nihr.ac.uk/get-involved/join-patient-engagement-activities-commercial-clinical-research>

## Appendix C: Conference Photographs



## Appendix D: Evaluation

In total, there were 20 attendees who filled out the evaluation form. The majority (N=19) felt *very satisfied* with the CYP PPIE 2nd National Meeting. All aspects of the event were also deemed *excellent* by most of the attendees. Detailed graphs can be found below.



Some of the things they found *valuable* about the event include connecting face-to-face with other people from all around the UK, learning about best practices from other projects, and discussing the challenges faced when involving CYP in research. In terms of *improvement* for future events, several people suggested creating more tangible opportunities to network, which include creating a delegate list shared prior to the event, organising a “speed dating” session during the event, and generally providing more time to network. Some people also would find benefit in providing more practical and less vague sessions on tips to involve CYP, and improving the technical aspect of the event (e.g. mics for all the speakers).