Quality Improvement Partner Panels (QuIPPs)

Briefing Note and FAQ’s

Purpose of this briefing note
To provide a summary outline of the QuIPPs to assist you with having further discussions with anyone who may express an interest in joining. The accompanying leaflet ‘Quality Improvement Partner Panels – A new way for your voice to improve the quality of health and care services’ can be given to anyone who is interested in finding out more.

An Outline of QuIPPs
QuIPPs is a new approach across the South West to engage with a wide range of people to gain feedback and advice on any area of health and social care where improvements are being planned, designed, tested and implemented. Members of the public are being recruited to act as partners and to participate in panels in order to give their views wherever such improvements are being proposed and considered.

What makes QuIPPs different is that partner panel members will receive training in the same quality improvement methodology as those working in the health and social care system. This will mean that partners and those working on improvements will have a shared understanding of the approaches being used, including terminology and the science behind the improvements. This will support and enable a greater level of efficient and effective input from the panels, and collaborative working with health and social care teams.

The QuIPPs Panels - how will it work?
There will be four separate partner panels: one for each of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Devon and Somerset, each of which will look at local improvement projects and a fourth panel for the whole of the South West, looking at region-wide projects.

Panel meetings will take place once a month through a video conference, with panel members completing some preparation work, such as reading papers, beforehand. The total time commitment per panel is expected to be approximately four hours per month.

Individuals will participate in either one or two panels.

When will the panel meetings start?
It is envisaged that the first QuIPPs meetings will start at the end of February 2019. After this, panels will meet monthly.

What training will be provided?
Partner panel members will attend four days of training in quality improvement methodology. These training days will take place one day a month during November, December, January and February, and the training will take place in central Exeter.

After this, there will be an annual activity for refresher training.
All training costs and expenses will be covered.

I am interested, how do I know if I am suitable to be a Partner Panel Member?

Anyone can apply to become a Partner Panel Member. You may be a current or former patient or a family member of a patient, equally you may be a member of the public with a genuine interest in supporting those working in health and social care with making improvements to the services and system.

All we ask is that you have a reasonable knowledge of and access to IT in order to operate video conferencing (full training will be provided), be a good listener, and able to provide constructive feedback. Direct or personal knowledge of the NHS and/or any social care systems, whilst helpful and welcomed, is not essential to apply. Further information on the health and social care systems will be provided through the training days.

Where can I find out more information? What do I need to do if I am interested in becoming a Panel Member? What is the deadline?

There are several ways you can find out more information:

- The accompanying leaflet provides further information and contact details
- Visit the SW AHSN website for more information: www.swahsn.com/quipps - (this includes links to the Terms of Reference and the Role Description for panel members)

To express your interest and apply to become a panel member, please send an email to quipps@swahsn.com stating your skills and experience. If you have a CV and/or a pen portrait, please attach this too. Please also provide two personal referees who may be contacted by the SW AHSN for reference purposes.

The deadline for applications to be considered for the next training programme (starting in November 2018) is noon on Monday 3 September 2018.