

## NIHR Applied Research Collaboration Kent, Surrey and Sussex

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) is the nation's largest funder of health and care research and provides the people, facilities and technology that enables research to thrive.

Applied Research Collaborations (ARCs) support applied health and care research that responds to, and meets, the needs of local populations and local health and care systems.

The NIHR ARC Kent Surrey and Sussex (ARC KSS) is one of 15 ARCs across England, part of a £135 million investment by the NIHR to improve the health and care of patients and the public. Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust is the host Trust for the ARC KSS working collaboratively with the Universities of Kent, Surrey and Sussex and member organisations to deliver its objectives.

Implementation is a core National Institute for Health and Care (NIHR) Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) function. It plays a vital role in supporting the translation and implementation of research evidence into practice.

The ARC KSS Academy brings together health and social care organisations across Kent, Surrey and Sussex to build and grow a sustainable research environment and workforce with expertise within practice as well as academic fields driven by shared values of:

- A supportive and consistent culture focussing on place-based applied research development across the whole system.
- Conducting meaningful research to benefit practice and in the public interest.
- Sharing excellent practice – doing things better and achieving better things.
- Encouraging socially-driven collaboration through shared interests.
- Learning together through inclusive opportunities for development.

The Kent, Surrey and Sussex Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) supports the Implementation focus of the NIHR ARC KSS, and Des Holden , Implementation Lead at ARC KSS and Chief Executive of KSS AHSN, leads this function.

ARC KSS has four key themes:-

- Children and Young People's Mental Health
- Primary and Community Services
- Living Well with Dementia
- Social Care