

Research Funding Board Minutes

Date: 13/14 October 2009

Venue: The Wellcome Collection

Present: *Board members:*
Professor Ronald Akehurst
Professor Mark Bellis
Dr Steven Cummins
Professor Hilary Graham
Dr Marcus Grant
Professor David Gunnell
Professor David Jones
Professor Frank Kee
Professor Catherine Law (Chair)
Professor Alistair Leyland
Professor Ann McNeill
Professor Laurence Moore
Professor Stephen Platt
Professor Helen Roberts
Professor Peter Smith
Professor Carolyn Summerbell
Professor Jane Wardle
Professor Nicholas Wareham (13 October, part)
Professor Martin White
Professor Margaret Whitehead

Apologies: Professor Sandy Oliver
Professor Mark Petticrew

Other attendees: *Observers:*
Professor Tom Walley, Director of NETS (13 October)
Dr Imogen Stephens, Consultant Advisor, NETSCC PHR
Dr Simon Bryant, Speciality Registrar, NETSCC (13 October)

NETSCC, PHR:
Miss Kristy Cable
Dr Ruairidh Milne
Mrs Kate Rodger
Ms Elaine Williams

DISCUSSION OF FULL PROPOSALS

RESEARCHER-LED

09/3000/03: A randomised controlled cluster trial comparing the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of a school based cognitive behaviour programme (FRIENDS) in the reduction of anxiety and improvement in mood in children aged 9/10.

Carolyn Summerbell introduced this proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and recommended it for funding subject to certain conditions.

09/3000/05: Evaluation of Smoke Free Homes: a school-based intervention to protect children from second-hand smoke.

Hilary Graham, Stephen Platt and Peter Smith left the room. Steven Cummins introduced this proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and requested that the proposal be re-submitted.

09/3000/06: Cluster randomised controlled trial, economic and process evaluation to determine the effectiveness and cost effectiveness of a novel school-based intervention (Healthy Lifestyles Programme, HeLP) to prevent and reduce obesity in children.

David Jones introduced this proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3000/13: Reducing the risk of harm from alcohol consumption among young people: a cluster randomised trial.

Frank Kee left the room. Peter Smith introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3000/14: Crime, fear of crime (CFOC) and mental health: evidence synthesis of theory and effectiveness of interventions.

Steven Cummins, Hilary Graham, David Jones, Alistair Leyland, Helen Roberts, Peter Smith and Margaret Whitehead left the room. Marcus Grant introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and recommended it for funding subject to certain conditions.

09/3001/13: 'On the buses': evaluating the impact of introducing free bus travel for young people on the public health.

Carolyn Summerbell chaired. Catherine Law, Mark Bellis, Helen Roberts and Margaret Whitehead left the room. Marcus Grant introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and recommended it for funding.

09/3001/17: Evaluation of the convenience store 'Change4Life' programme to promote sales of fruit and vegetables.

Steven Cummins, Alistair Leyland, Helen Roberts, Martin White and Margaret Whitehead left the room. Stephen Platt introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and recommended it for funding subject to certain conditions.

09/3001/21: A feasibility study of a Brief Intervention promoting repeated Taste Exposure (BITE) to enhance the consumption of healthy school meals in primary schools.

David Gunnell and Laurence Moore left the room. Carolyn Summerbell introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

DISCUSSION OF OUTLINE PROPOSALS

COMMISSIONED

09/3003 - The reduction of harm associated with injecting drug use

09/3003/01: Evaluating the cost effectiveness of the provision of injecting equipment and paraphernalia to reduce drug related harm.

Mark Bellis, David Gunnell and Laurence Moore left the room. Nicholas Wareham introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3003/02: Reduction of harm associated with injecting Performance and Image Enhancing Drugs through vending machine provision of sterile injecting equipment study

Mark Bellis, David Gunnell and Laurence Moore left the room. Nicholas Wareham introduced the proposal

The Board discussed the proposal and shortlisted it.

09/3004 – Mental wellbeing of older people

09/3004/01: Putting Life in Years (PLINY): Evaluation of the comparative effectiveness and cost effectiveness of two interventions to promote mental well being in community living older people

Frank Kee chaired. Catherine Law, Ronald Akehurst, Jane Wardle left the room. Nicholas Wareham introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and shortlisted it.

09/3004/02: What is the relative effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of home based support programmes in improving the mental well-being of older people living in their own homes?

Frank Kee chaired. Catherine Law, Ronald Akehurst, Jane Wardle left the room. Nicholas Wareham introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and shortlisted it.

09/3004/03: Befriending of older people to support-exercise (BOOST-exercise) trial: pilot randomised controlled trial of community based multi-dimensional home programme to improve mental well being of older people who are living alone at home.

Frank Kee chaired. Catherine Law, Ronald Akehurst, Jane Wardle left the room. Nicholas Wareham introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

RESEARCHER-LED

09/3002/05: Public health interventions to address overweight and obesity: how best to engage men aged 30-50yrs

Hilary Graham and Peter Smith left the room. Frank Kee introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/06: TEAMPLAY: Parents and children partnering for healthy lifestyles

David Gunnell left the room. Martin White introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/08: The effects of schools and school-environment interventions on health: evidence mapping and synthesis

Steven Cummins, Helen Roberts and Margaret Whitehead left the room. Alastair Leyland introduced the proposal

The Board discussed the proposal and shortlisted it.

09/3002/09: RCT of a combined school-wide ethos/curriculum intervention to reduce young people's substance use

Ronald Akehurst chaired. Catherine Law, Alistair Leyland, Helen Roberts and Jane Wardle left the room. Mark Bellis introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/10: Effects of Scottish Government changes in alcohol policy on Lothian NHS referral rates for alcohol-related disorders and alcohol consumption pattern reported by patients

Alistair Leyland left the room. Jane Wardle introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/12: Evaluating the effectiveness, risks and costs of a new water fluoridation scheme in England

David Gunnell left the room. Ron Akehurst introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/18: Phase II translational evidence of the dissemination of an evidence- and population-based public health strategy to reduce population-level indicators of child maltreatment

Helen Roberts introduced the proposal

The Board discussed the proposal and shortlisted it.

09/3002/19: Improving cooking skills in low income groups: evaluation of the Rotherham Ministry of Food Centre

Hilary Graham introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/20: Evaluation and Modelling of Price and Information Regimes to Influence the dietary Choices of different socioeconomic groups (EMPIRIC)

Steven Cummins and Carolyn Summerbell left the room. Steven Cummins introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/21: The use of green gyms to improve the health and well-being of UK adults

Stephen Platt chaired. Catherine Law, Peter Smith, Jane Wardle left the room. Frank Kee introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

09/3002/23: Evaluation of Cycling England's "Bike to work" demonstration project to promote cycle commuting among National Health Service (NHS) employees at acute hospitals in the North East of England

Steven Cummins, Carolyn Summerbell and Martin White left the room. Marcus Grant introduced the proposal.

The Board discussed the proposal and rejected it.

Summary

- 1 FULL proposal was recommended for funding
- 3 FULL proposals were recommended for funding subject to certain conditions
- 1 FULL proposal was asked to re-submit
- 5 OUTLINE proposals were discussed and shortlisted.