

What is the Research Design Service?

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Regional Director***



Part of an NIHR network

- East of England
- London
- North East
- South Central
- South East Coast
- South West
- West Midlands
- Yorkshire and Humberside
- North West
- East Midlands



Purpose of the RDS

- To help people design and develop high quality research proposals.
- Focus on NHS-based researchers applying to peer reviewed open competition funding
- Particular focus on Research for Patient Benefit programme

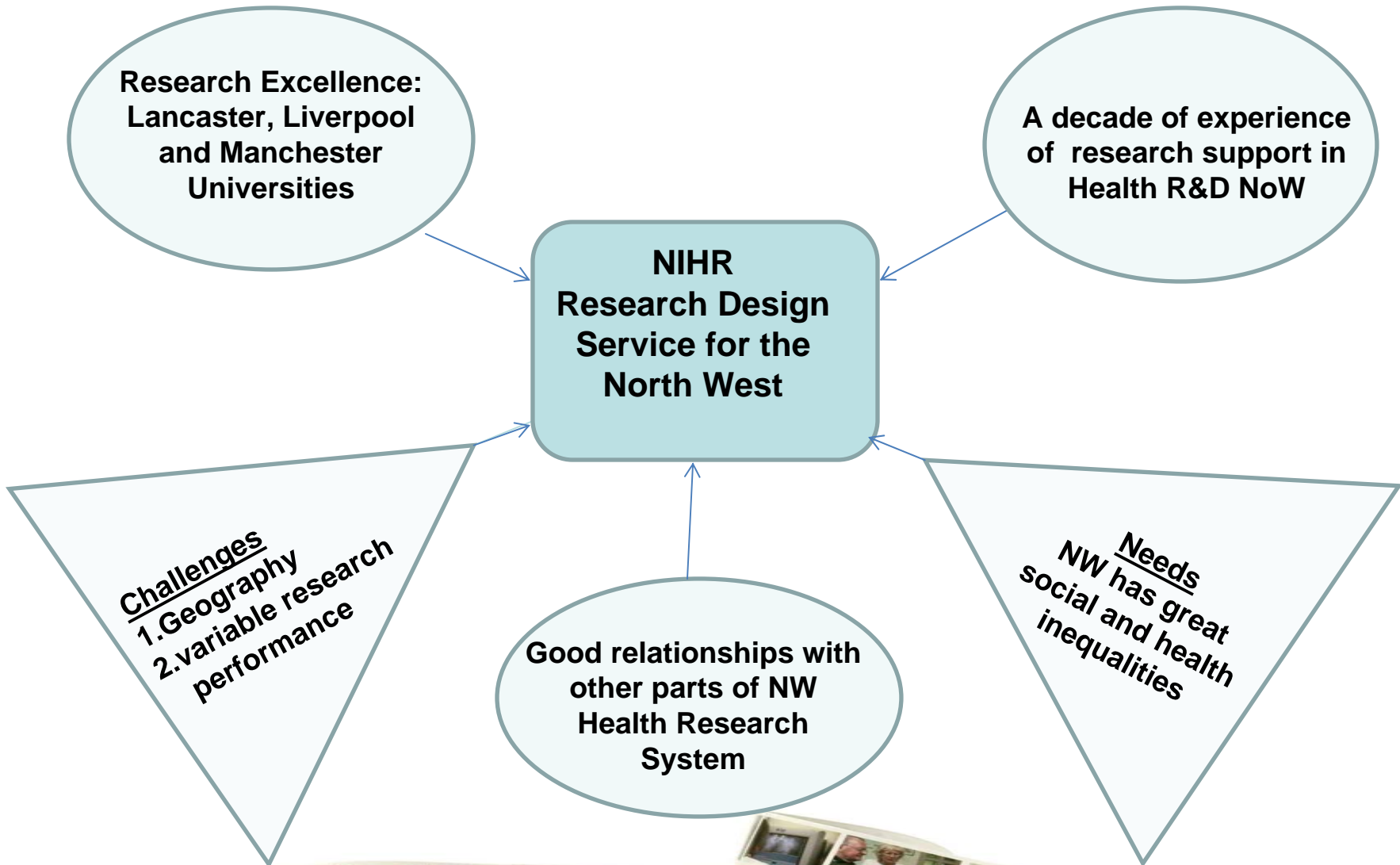


Why the investment?

- Relatively high proportion of low quality applications
- Relatively high proportion not in scope
- Not enough collaboration
- Public involvement weak
- Simple administrative errors in applications.



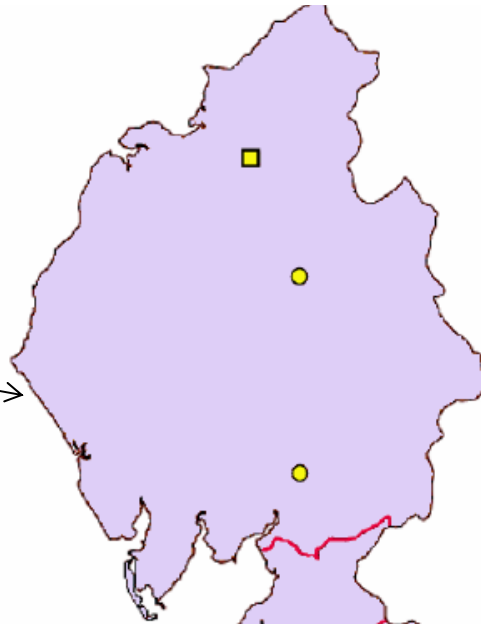
The North West Context



A Regional Service with three local services & a central hub

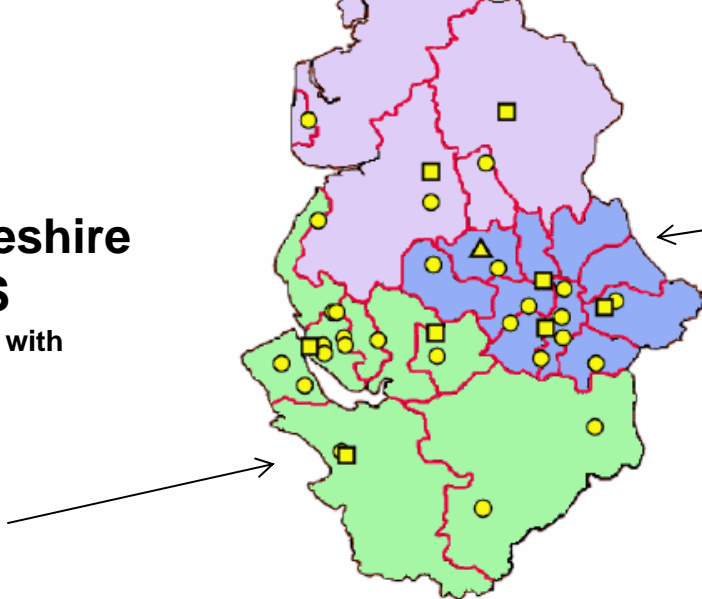
Cumbria & Lancashire local RDS

Lancaster University with Universities of Cumbria and Central Lancashire



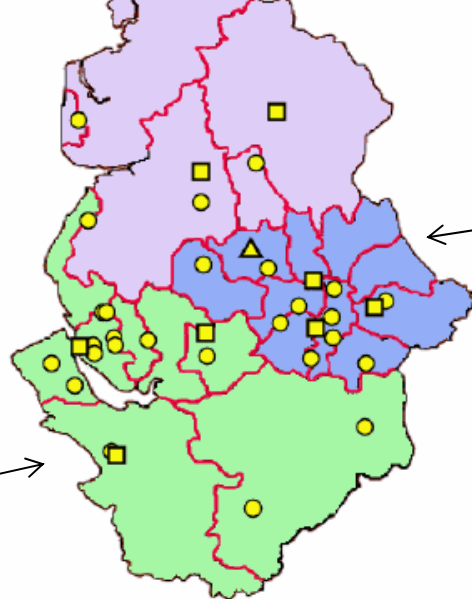
Mersey and Cheshire Local RDS

Liverpool University with Bangor



Greater Manchester Local RDS

University of Manchester With University of Salford



Generic Structure of Local Service based on CLRN footprint

Local Office: contact point

**Quantitative
Study Designs**

**Qualitative
Study Designs**

Specialist Expertise

- *Public Health Interventions
- *Public Health Informatics
- *Primary Care based studies
- *Epidemiology
- *Rehabilitation research
- *Social care
- *Systematic reviewing
- *Participatory designs including action research

**Health
Economics**

**Mixed
Methods
Designs**

- **Specialist support for RD adviser on Public Involvement in health research**
 - **Collaboration development and support**
 - **General advice on costing of research proposals**

The Advice and Support System

- **Multiple points of access – telephone, web, email**
- **Advice service**
 - Signposting to other sources of support e.g. RDINfo**
 - Providing self help resources on-line and hard copy e.g. Ethics**
 - Assess originality and feasibility of outline proposals**
 - Case management of RD support**
 - Pre-submission lay & professional review**
 - Supporting response to conditional funding offers**
 - Review of unsuccessful proposals & support with resubmission**
- **Learning events: funding sources, ad hoc workshops**



Supporting collaborations

Health research isn't for the lone ranger

We can help you build the *dream team*
including *public involvement*



- **Through our governance structures – lay representatives**
- **Working with regional partners to support PPI through**
 - Training**
 - Mentoring**
 - Contact database**
- **Advice on building PPI into all stages of research**
- **Bursaries for researchers to include PPI in proposals**
- **Provide open access on-line resources on PPI in research**
- **signpost other sources of support & resources for PPI**
- **Evaluate the impact of PPI in research**



**For further information and
advice from NIHR RDS for the
North West, please visit**

<http://www.rds-nw.nihr.ac.uk>