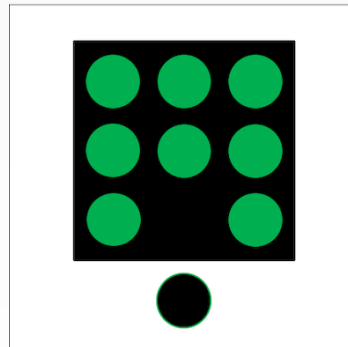


UKRI Loneliness and Social Isolation in Mental Health research network

Interventions Plus Projects Funding Call Q&A Webinar



UK Research
and Innovation

4 August 2020

Dr Alexandra Pitman

Co-lead of Loneliness & Social Isolation in Mental Health research network
Associate Professor, UCL Division of Psychiatry, University College London

Loneliness & Social Isolation in Mental Health research network: who we are

- researchers
- people with lived experience of loneliness, social isolation & mental illness
- policy-makers, voluntary sector organisations
- practitioners
- Led by:
 - Professor Sonia Johnson, UCL Division of Psychiatry
 - Dr Alexandra Pitman, UCL Division of Psychiatry
- 10 co-investigators: University of Birmingham, LSE, Royal College of Music, UCL, University of Northumbria

PLUS PROJECTS – 2nd call

- UKRI have funded us to commission research
- total Plus Projects fund: £500,000
 - 1st funding call: **Pathways**
 - individual projects of up to £30,000
 - 2nd funding call: **Interventions - now open**
 - individual projects of up to £50,000
 - small projects of up to £15k
 - large projects of up to £50k
 - provided at 80% full economic costing (i.e. receive up to £12k or £40k respectively)
 - closes at 5pm on 2nd October 2020



Research aiming to explore approaches to:

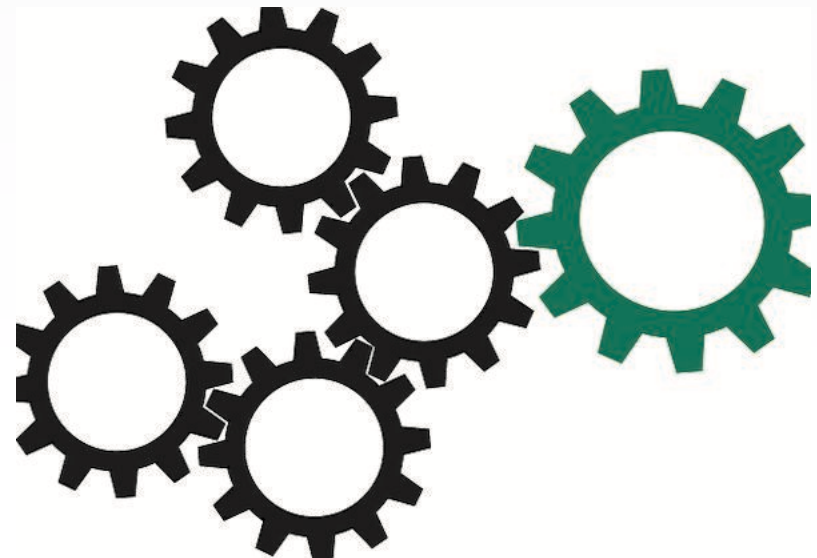
- Prevention:
 - Which interventions/specific activities reduce loneliness and social isolation in the general population? Do these interventions/specific activities also reduce the risk of the onset of mental health problems?
- Treatment:
 - Which interventions/specific activities reduce loneliness and social isolation in individuals with existing mental health problems?

At any level

Level	Example
national	public awareness campaign
community	Chatty Bus initiative
group	app for new university students
individual	addressing cognitive biases

We are looking for:

- Must demonstrate:
- Integrates multiple research disciplines
- incorporates perspective of people with relevant lived experience
- Strongly encourage:
- cross-sectoral approaches
- ECR-led projects



cognitive
neuroscience

user-led interventions

historical
perspective

philosophy

lived experience

digital
technologies

built environment

social science

clinical
psychology

arts interventions

epidemiology

Plus Project priorities

- projects that bring together multiple academic disciplines
- projects that take cross-sector approaches eg with third sector and practitioner partners.
- projects addressing hard-to-reach groups
- projects that pave the way for subsequent larger-scale cross-disciplinary work (eg grants)
- projects led by ECRs
- projects led by lived experience researchers
- all projects to incorporate the perspective of people with relevant lived experience

Network Funding Call

The network is planning two Plus Projects Funding Calls. Our second funding call is now open.

Network Plus Project Funding Call #2: Interventions

We are delighted to announce that our second plus projects funding call is now open. Grants will be available for small projects of up to £15k and large projects of up to £50k (provided at 80% full economic costing i.e. successful applications would receive up to £12k or £40k respectively). The call will close at 5pm on 2nd October 2020.

In this second funding call we will commission research that aims to understand:

1. What interventions/specific activities reduce loneliness and social isolation in the general population, and whether these interventions/specific activities also reduce the risk of the onset of mental health problems, and/or
2. What interventions/specific activities reduce loneliness and social isolation in individuals with existing mental health problems.

FAQs

- Decisions on funding expected by 1/12/20
- Projects should aim to commence by 1/03/21 (no later than 1/4/21)
- Projects can be up to 12 months long
- We suggest you COVID-proof your plans!

Further information

- <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/psychiatry/research/epidemiology-and-applied-clinical-research-department/loneliness-and-social-isolation>
- Twitter @UCL_Loneliness
- #loneliness #MHLoneliness
- monthly newsletter
- email our network co-ordinator:
ellie.pearce@ucl.ac.uk