Division of Psychiatry

UKRI Loneliness and Social Isolation in Mental Health Network Plus Projects Funding Call

UK Research and Innovation

Dr Mary Birken, Network Coordinator

Network Funding Call

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

Network Plus Project Funding Call #1: Pathways

This funding call is now open. The closing date for applications is Friday 31st January 2020 at 5pm.

The purpose of this funding call

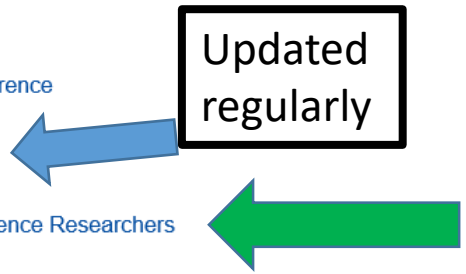
In this first funding call we will commission high quality research that looks at understanding what the experience of loneliness and social isolation is like for individuals with mental health problems, and what the nature of the relationship is between loneliness/isolation and mental health problems. We strongly encourage interdisciplinary and cross-sector approaches that incorporate third sector, practitioner and particularly lived experience perspectives. We welcome applications led by Early Career Researchers (see FAQs for more details) and will fund at least two projects led by lived experience researchers (across the two funding calls).

Event for potential applicants

To support everyone who is interested in putting in an application, we are holding an event on 13th November, see our Network Events page for more information. You do not need to have attended this event to make an application, and all the information provided at the workshop will be available on this Network Funding Call page after the event.

Our website also contains a range of resources on our **Network Events** and **Resources** pages that we hope applicants will find helpful, including presentations from network events and reference lists of published papers and reports regarding loneliness and social isolation in mental health.

FULL DETAILS OF THIS FUNDING CALL CAN BE FOUND IN THE DOCUMENTS BELOW. THE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS WILL BE UPDATED REGULARLY.



- Call Brief and Terms of Reference
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Information for Lived Experience Researchers
- Research questions collated from events in June & July 2019
- Application Form
- Budget Form

Purpose of this first call

Focus on <u>understanding</u> loneliness and social isolation in mental health

For this funding call we are <u>not</u> looking for research into interventions.

We follow the UKRI in **<u>excluding</u>** neurodegenerative disorders such as dementia.

We are not able to fund non-UK based projects

Pathways funding call

Maximum fund available per project £30,000

We anticipate funding 5-10 projects of between £10,000-£30,000
(Totalling £200,000)

Grant-funded projects should be delivered within 12 months

UK Research and Innovation

Eligibility

The Principal Investigator must hold a position in a UK University or other UK Higher Education Institution (HEI) including eligible independent research organisations (ROs).

Eligibility

Principal Investigator/Co-applicant

We strongly encourage people with relevant lived experience to make applications.

We will fund at least two projects led by lived experience researchers (across the two funding calls).

We welcome applications led by Early Career Researchers

Cross-sector collaborations

We also strongly encourage **interdisciplinary and cross-sector approaches that incorporate third sector, practitioner and particularly lived experience perspectives**.

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Cross-sector collaboration

Third sector or person with lived experience has research ideas

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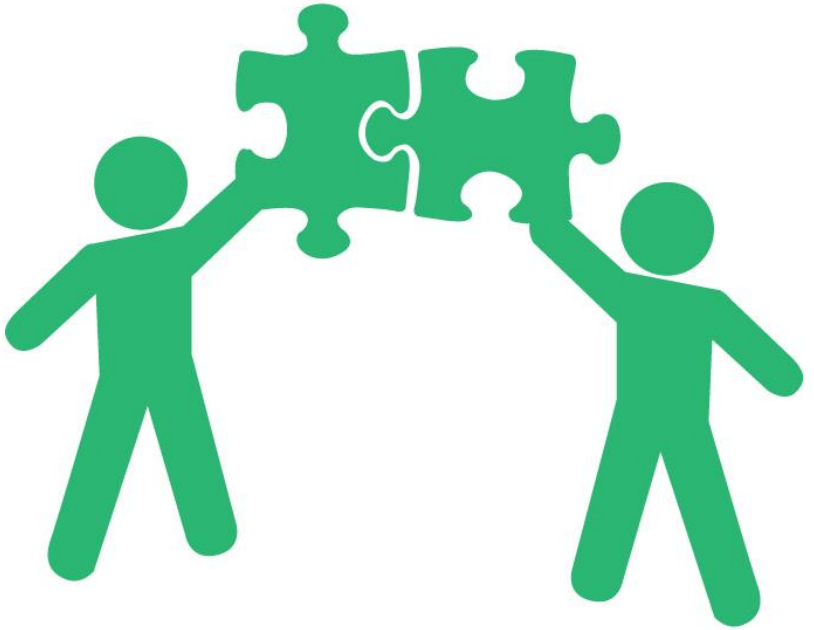
seeks HEI researchers with shared interest



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Costs covered by the grant

- **Full details in Terms of Reference**

- Applications must clearly show which costs will be incurred by UK HEIs and which will be incurred by partners in business, the third sector, or government bodies.

- Budget Form

Some Frequently asked Questions

Q: Can I submit a proposal as PI if I am a PhD student?

A. PhD students can apply for funds to cover research costs but we will not cover fees or stipends.

Some Frequently asked Questions

Q: I'm interested in researching loneliness in a specific group of people, for example people with autism / refugees in the UK / looked-after children / international students – does this fall under the call remit?

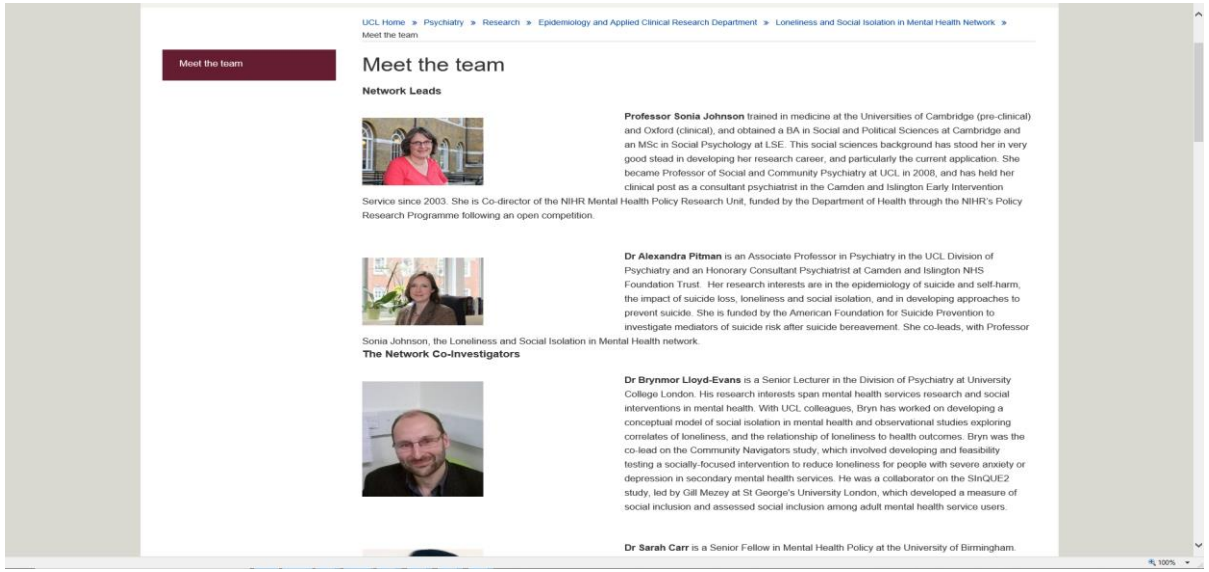
A: We would expect a focus on the relationship between loneliness/social isolation and the onset or maintenance of mental health problems (such as depression, anxiety and psychosis) in that specific group. Research questions that we would be interested in for the Pathways call are:

Are people with autism / refugees in the UK / looked-after children who are lonely or socially isolated at higher risk of developing mental health problems? Why?

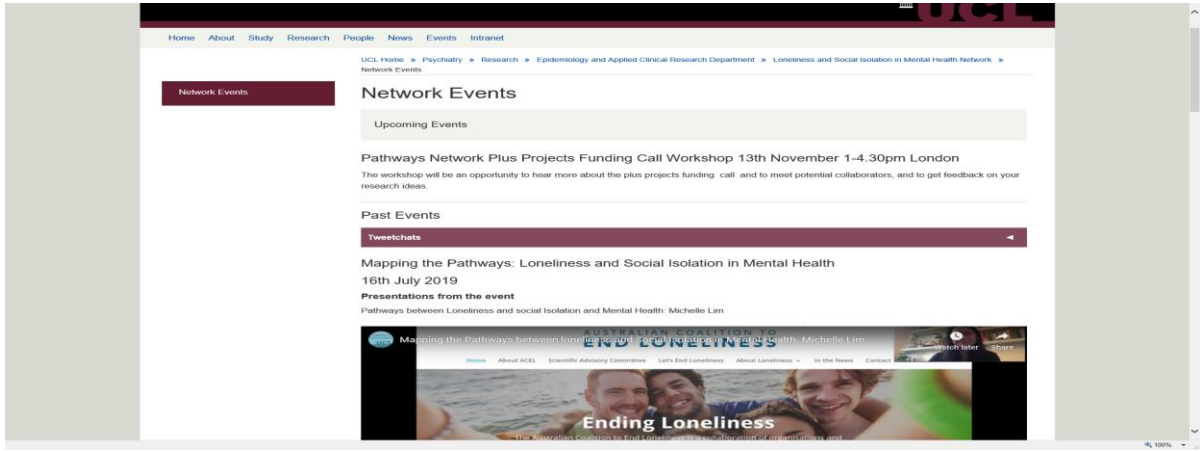
Are people with autism / refugees in the UK / looked-after children with comorbid mental health problems (such as depression, anxiety and psychosis) at greater risk of loneliness/social isolation? Why?

Other Resources for applicants on our website

our Co-Investigators, who are happy to discuss research applications in their areas

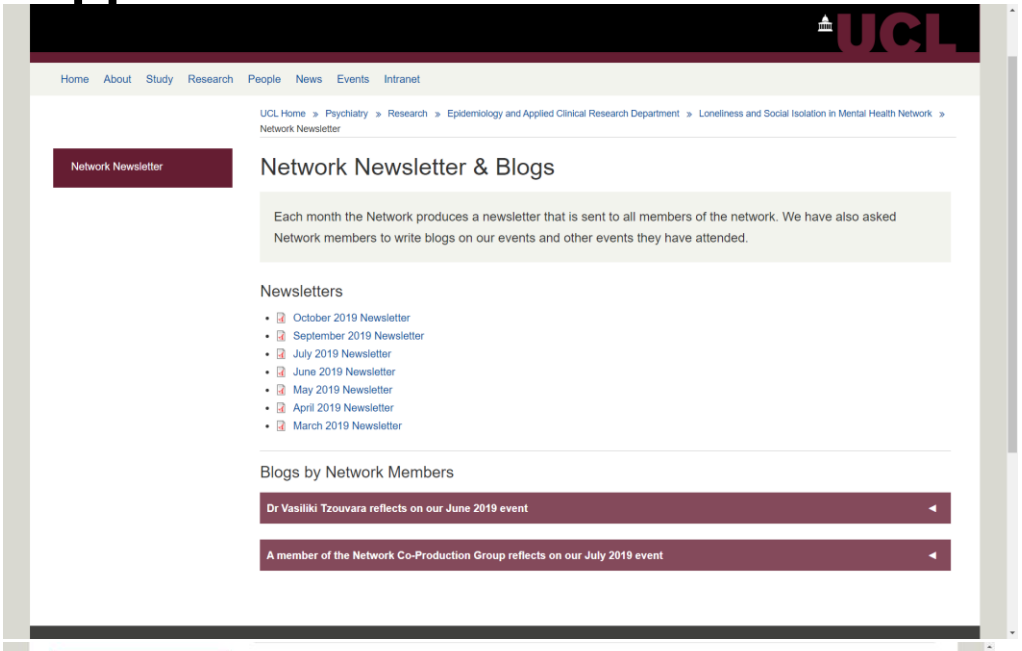


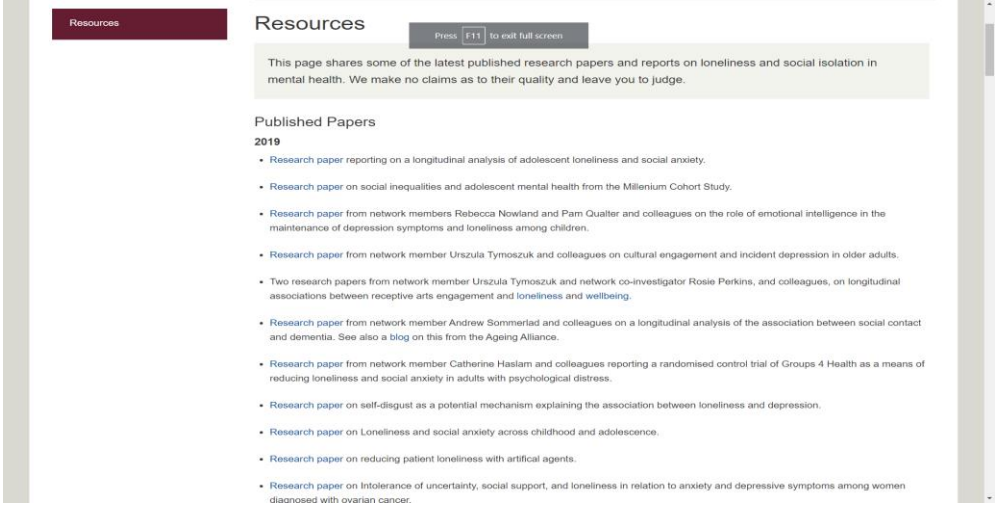
Presentations from past events



Other Resources for applicants on our website

Newsletters and blogs



Resources

Papers
Reports
Podcasts
Available Datasets in relation to Loneliness and Social Isolation in Mental Health