

Lincolnshire Health and Care Research and Innovation Priorities

Ten questions to guide research, innovation, and collaboration across Lincolnshire

Why this matters

Lincolnshire's health and care system serves more than 789,000 people living in urban, rural, and coastal environments. These priorities provide a shared focus for evidence, research, innovation, collaboration, and improved health and care outcomes.

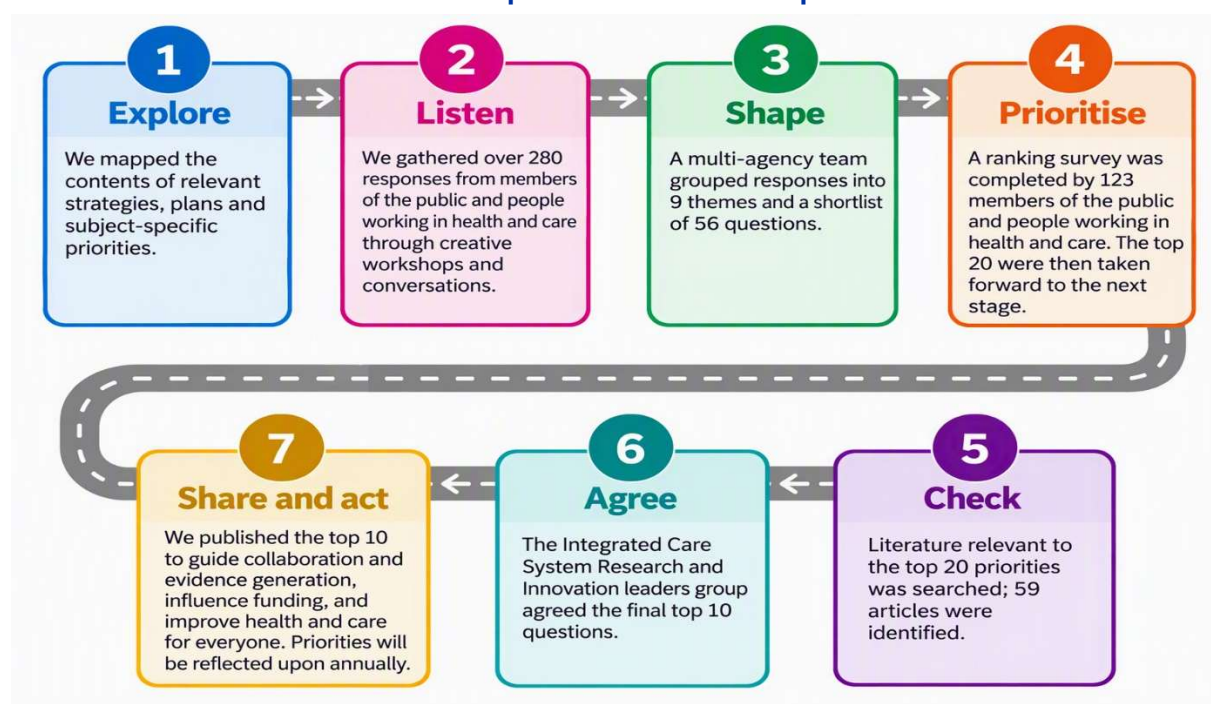
Nine themes shaped prioritisation

Population health needs and inequalities • Research, innovation and evidence use • Inclusion and trust • Data, digital technology and AI • Sustainable and integrated care models • Person-centred experiences and navigation • Wider determinants of health • Prevention and healthy behaviours • Long-term conditions, frailty, mental health and complex needs

Top 10 research and innovation priority questions

1	How can designing research with communities be embedded across the system?
2	How can neighbourhood care be designed to reflect local needs?
3	What are the major health risks, unmet needs, and inequalities in access, experience, and outcomes across different age groups and communities?
4	How can joined-up care for people with multiple long-term conditions be improved?
5	How can people be best supported to find, enter, and navigate services, including out-of-hours access, signposting, social prescribing, and community connectors?
6	How can we build a culture that supports sustainable research, innovation, learning, and improvement across Lincolnshire's health and care system?
7	How can people be supported to manage their health and wellbeing while reducing treatment burden and providing holistic, whole-person care?
8	How do poverty, housing quality and insecurity, homelessness, transport barriers, digital exclusion, and language and communication barriers affect health outcomes and engagement with services?
9	What approaches most effectively support healthy weight, physical activity, stopping smoking, alcohol reduction, substance use support, and improved sleep?
10	What mix of staff, skills, and experience is needed to deliver joined-up health and care services?

How the priorities were developed



More details about each of the priorities

1

How can designing research with communities be embedded across the system?

Why this matters

People should have opportunities to help shape, carry out, and use research that affects them. Research can help us understand the best ways to involve people from Lincolnshire's different communities at every stage and ensure a wide range of voices are heard.



2

How can neighbourhood care be designed to reflect local needs?

Why this matters

People should be able to receive appropriate care and support close to home. Research and innovation can help identify and test ways of designing neighbourhood services that respond to the different needs of Lincolnshire's rural, coastal, and urban communities.

3

What are the major health risks, unmet needs, and inequalities in access, experience, and outcomes across different age groups and communities?

Why this matters

People's health, access to care, and experiences of services can vary depending on their age, circumstances, and where they live. Research can help identify where and for whom needs and inequalities are greatest in Lincolnshire, so that action and resources can be focused where they are most needed.

4

How can joined-up care for people with multiple long-term conditions be improved?

Why this matters

People living with more than one long-term condition may have several appointments, treatments, and sources of support involving different services. Research and innovation can help find and test better ways to coordinate care around the whole person, making it easier to manage wherever they live in Lincolnshire.

5

How can people be best supported to find, enter, and navigate services, including out-of-hours access, signposting, social prescribing, and community connectors?



Why this matters

People can find it difficult to know what support is available, how to access it, and where to go. Research and innovation can help identify the best ways to connect people across Lincolnshire with the right services, advice, and support.

6

How can we build a culture that supports sustainable research, innovation, learning, and improvement across Lincolnshire's health and care system?

Why this matters

Research, innovation, and learning are essential to developing better health and care. Understanding how to make them part of roles, services, and decision-making could strengthen skills, support the workforce, and help improve care for people across Lincolnshire.

7

How can people be supported to manage their health and wellbeing while reducing treatment burden and providing holistic, whole-person care?

Why this matters

People should be supported to manage their health and wellbeing in ways that reflect what matters to them. Research and innovation can help identify approaches that consider the whole person, reduce the time and effort involved in managing treatments, and support people to stay well and maintain their quality of life.

8

How do poverty, housing quality and insecurity, homelessness, transport barriers, digital exclusion, and language and communication barriers affect health outcomes and engagement with services?

Why this matters

People's health and ability to access services can be affected by their circumstances and needs. Research can help us understand how these barriers affect people in Lincolnshire's rural, coastal, and urban communities and identify effective ways to reduce their impact.

9

What approaches most effectively support healthy weight, physical activity, stopping smoking, alcohol reduction, substance use support, and improved sleep?

Why this matters

People need the right opportunities and support to improve and maintain their health and wellbeing. Research and innovation can help identify which approaches work best for different people and communities in Lincolnshire and how services and wider systems can support lasting change.

10

What mix of staff, skills, and experience is needed to deliver joined-up health and care services?

Why this matters

People should receive joined-up care from staff with the right skills and experience, wherever they live in Lincolnshire. Research can help us understand the mix of roles, skills and ways of working needed now and in the future, and how that learning can be put into practice.

Your other most important priorities

- What are the most effective ways to make information accessible and trustworthy to support prevention, self-care, and ongoing care?
- Why do some people not access, continue using, or trust services?
- What are the impacts of climate and environmental factors on health outcomes and how can people and systems navigate these?
- What balance of personalised, holistic (taking account of the whole person), and medical approaches produces the best outcomes?
- How can data sharing and communication support safe and integrated care?
- How can local data identify people at greatest risk and support earlier intervention?
- How do poverty, housing quality and insecurity, homelessness, transport barriers, digital exclusion, and language and communication barriers affect health outcomes and engagement with services?

Thank you to everyone who has supported this work by sharing your views, attending workshops, completing the survey, shaping the data, sharing this document, and the many other ways members of the public and people working in Lincolnshire have contributed.

What happens next?

The priorities will help partners identify evidence gaps, develop collaborative research and innovation, and respond to relevant funding opportunities. Priorities will be reflected upon annually by the Integrated Care System Research and Innovation leaders group.

Keeping in the loop

Live in Lincolnshire?

Sign up to the Lincolnshire Research Network newsletter via:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/LYAQZL/> or the QR code here ➡



Work in Lincolnshire?

Sign up to Research and Innovation Lincs via:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/LvxhhzDfys> or the QR code here ➡

If your work is linked to any of the priorities, please get in touch.



You can contact the Research and Innovation team via: licb.lincsrihub@nhs.net

Lots of other resources that may be of interest can be found on the Lincolnshire Research and Innovation Hub webpages:

<https://lincolnshire.icb.nhs.uk/lincsrihub/be-part-of-this/>

