

INTERNAL COMMS FOR SCHOOL MEMBERS – FINAL VERSION

NIHR Research Schools: increased focus on driving system expertise in early diagnosis, prevention and community health and social care research across NIHR

NIHR is seeking to build upon the success of the three NIHR Research Schools and the Board has asked the Directors to lead the development of a bold vision and plan to further embed social care, public health and primary care research across the NIHR ecosystem.

This reflects the NIHR's ongoing commitment to the importance of growing these areas of research, in close alignment with the Government's Health Mission and 10 Year Health Plan. To give time to build and implement this next step, the School for Primary Care Research and School for Public Health Research will have their current contracts extended until 2029, aligning with the School for Social Care Research.

The Schools Directors and NIHR leaders will work together, alongside other key stakeholders, to ensure that public health, primary care and social care research can continue to grow in both capacity and impact by becoming truly embedded across the NIHR ecosystem.

Professor Lucy Chappell, Chief Scientific Adviser at the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and Chief Executive Officer of the NIHR said: "We have seen the huge strides that NIHR and its community have made over previous years in building research across primary care, social care and public health. The three NIHR Schools have both spearheaded this within their own areas, but have also critically worked on collaborative programmes including dementia, mental health and prevention. In line with the Government's ambitions set out in the 10 Year Health Plan to reform the UK health system, the Directors of the three NIHR Schools will be working with the NIHR community to lead the development of a new vision and plan to integrate social care, public health and primary care even further across the NIHR system. This work will reflect the three shifts: hospital to community, treatment to prevention, and analogue to digital. As national leaders in their respective fields, their leadership is critical to driving future success."