

Call: Engaging your members with *hyvr*.

1. Introduction

Since its inception in 2012, the West of England AHSN has benefitted from the involvement of public contributors in a variety of ways including through events and workshop relating to specific projects and programmes, and through participation in organisational governance.

In addition we have developed *hyvr* (Have Your Vision Realised!) a social media platform which will enable engagement on a larger scale, to a greater extent and with a wider reach. It also provides an online space for contributions to innovation in healthcare in the region where public involvement in design of new products and services is an essential component to success. On-going dialogue on *hyvr* between the public and other collaborators will seek to accelerate the development of new and relevant healthcare initiatives, including products, gadgets and new ways of working. These tangible outputs will contribute to transforming health and care, aiming to improve the quality of life of our population.

In order to realise the potential of *hyvr*, the West of England AHSN is inviting organisations from the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector to submit proposals for projects which will achieve four objectives:

1. Benefit the applying organisation(s) in supporting a strategic aim(s).
2. Provide sufficient numbers of users on the *hyvr* platform to determine its efficacy as a networking tool.
3. Strengthen links with public contributors putting them at the heart of the innovation process.
4. Support innovators to engage directly with public contributors.

The total funding available for this call is £30,000. The West of England AHSN will be accepting applications detailing budget proposals of between £500 and £10,000 (incl. VAT).

The number of awards granted being determined by alignment with project criteria:

Each successful project proposals will be capable of:

- Being led and submitted by an organisation from the voluntary community and social enterprise sector. Multi-organisational proposals are welcome with an accountable lead organisation.
- Supporting innovation to improve health and care. This may be, for example, through co-creation or co-production of an improved pathway, intervention or product; expanding into a specific community of interest; evaluating an innovative provision; exploring usability of new products related to a particular patient group.
- Engaging with at least 50 people through *hyvr* for smaller bids increasing to 200+ people for larger bids
- Being fully implemented by the end of January 2020.
- Submitting monthly progress reports to West of England AHSN and a final project report to the West of England AHSN, with a 'lessons learned' summary within a month of project completion.

Priority will be given to proposals with a presence in and/or benefitting local citizens of the geographical area of the West of England AHSN. However, outstanding UK proposals from outside the West of England AHSN area will be considered

The West of England AHSN will support the *hyvr* online platform through to the end of January 2020. Sustainability of *hyvr* is expected beyond this date, currently under review.

2. About the West of England Academic Health Science Network (AHSN)

The **West of England AHSN** is one of 15 regional health innovation networks licensed by NHS England. It brings together the health service community, industry, higher education, research bodies, patients and the wider public to work in partnership and take patient care and experience to new levels. The geography of the West of England covers the seven local authority areas of Gloucestershire, Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, Wiltshire and Swindon

The West of England AHSN helps to deliver positive healthcare outcomes in the region and nationally by driving the development and adoption of new innovations and enabling patients to play an increasing role in their own care and that of others. As a result, the organisation's impact is far-reaching: from enhancing patient wellbeing, saving lives and mitigating high risk incidents such as strokes; to enhancing efficiencies in healthcare practice and boosting the local economy through private sector collaborations.

In order to deliver these outcomes, West of England AHSN routinely communicates with a range of stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, innovators and the wider public.

3. About *hyvr* 2.0

hyvr 2.0 was released in November 2018. *hyvr* is an online social media platform for healthcare users and healthcare innovators to meet, discuss, collaborate and co-design new healthcare ideas, products and services. In short, crowd intelligence.

hyvr stands for: Have Your Vision Realised! Whether a patient, a carer, a member of the public, a clinician, an inventor, a small-medium enterprise (SME), a mature business, an academic, a healthcare worker, a voluntary sector employee or volunteer or a citizen of any other flavour, *hyvr* presents an opportunity to contribute to innovation through identifying need, sharing views and ideas and new product design.

Once registered, a user can join a *hyvr* discussion group – a hive – or create one if he or she can't find what they are looking for. A user can join and create as many hives as they like. A *hyvr* user can read, join or start a discussion in their chosen hive or hives. A hive can be public and searchable, or private and accessible by invite only.

If a user has an idea for a product, he or she can ask other users if they 'like' it; then review responses and see if the idea is worth further refinement and consultation. Users will be able to 'like' and 'comment' on posts too - there are many different ways to get feedback.

To delve in further, users can also message one-to-one.

Thus, *hyvr* enables easy dialogue for any group to share ideas and experiences – all contributing to innovation in healthcare through co-design and crowd-intelligence.

For further information, see <https://hyvr.co.uk/about>.

3.1. The story behind *hyvr* – Design Together, Live Better

In 2015 the West of England AHSN launched ‘Design Together, Live Better’¹ in partnership with the charity Designability². This initiative brought together members of the public living with a disability and long-term health conditions with the expertise of product designers in a workshop setting. The aim was to create innovative products to aid daily living for the challenging health conditions. Ideas evolved from discussions, which were refined through further conversation. Three ideas were selected. Designability worked closely with potential users to develop prototypes for testing for these three ideas, with a view to creating appealing, needed, sellable products.

The three prototypes were:

- Audre: a personalised companion trolley
- Oso: a child seat harness that can be fastened with one hand
- Pura: a portable bidet for personal hygiene when away from home.

The success of this project led to the concept of *hyvr* – an online platform designed to replicate the concept of co-design and crowd-intelligence at scale.

4. Schedule

Activity	Dates
Application opens	14 th January 2019
Application deadline	21st February 2019 (midday)
Shortlist	w/c 25th Feb 2019
Interviews	7 th March 2019
Successful applicants informed	8 th -12th March 2019
Project planning phase	March to May 2019
Project ‘Go Live’	June 2019
Formal progress review	10 th September 2019
Latest date for final report	28 th February 2020

5. Application Process

Proposals are to be submitted by email to Jo Bangoura at jo.bangoura@weahsn.net by midday on 21st February 2019, using guidance in the table below.

¹ <https://www.weahsn.net/our-work/innovation-and-growth/design-together-live-better/>

² <https://designability.org.uk/>

Application Guidance Notes	
Section 1 – Factual Information	Maximum of 2 sides of A4
Project contact details and role(s), organisational name, purpose and activities, links to web-based information as relevant, registered charity number where relevant, location, annual turnover, details of service user base.	
Section 2 – Proposal	
Purpose and measurable aim of proposal, including fit with other organisational activities, and <i>hyvr.</i> (narrative). Specify: Detail of how <i>hyvr</i> will be used including approach and operational responsibility. Expected number of users engaged. Any support needed from West of England AHSN. Detail of any other organisations involved. On-going related activity upon project completion.	
Section 3 – Timeframe	
Dates of proposal tasks and milestones from successful application to project completion.	
Section 4 – Quotation	Maximum of 1 side of A4
Applicants are invited to submit a quotation for costs inclusive of VAT. Detail of resources and other costs. This may include project management time and marketing costs, for example. Indicative pricing will aid the selection process. Ensure clarity between costs provided by your organisation and those identified as part of the proposal funding application.	

Our review process will include review of written applications in the first instance. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview on 7th March 2019.

Successful applicants will be notified by 12th March 2019. The successful application will be subject to the completion of a due diligence process and signing of a joint working agreement between the (lead) organisation and West of England AHSN.

6. Contact

For any further enquiries please contact:

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