Bright Ideas in Health Awards

Category: Collaborative Improvement Award, Sponsored by Boost

This category is open to organisations in the North East and North Cumbria

The Collaborative Improvement Award celebrates communities, networks, partnerships and collaborative initiatives that bring people together to create positive and lasting change.

Whether through co-production with local communities, cross-sector partnerships, improvement collaboratives or citizen-led initiatives, this award recognises those who have worked collectively to tackle challenges, develop solutions and improve health, wellbeing and care outcomes.

We are looking for inspiring examples of collaboration that have successfully engaged citizens, patients, carers, staff and partners to drive meaningful improvement.

Successful entries will demonstrate how shared learning, collective action and strong relationships have led to measurable benefits for people, communities and services.

This award celebrates initiatives that not only deliver results but also create a culture of continuous improvement, ensuring learning and impact continue beyond the life of the project.

Judges will be looking for:

- Meaningful involvement of citizens, patients, carers, staff and communities.
- Effective collaboration across organisational, professional or community boundaries.
- Evidence of co-production, shared decision-making and collective ownership.
- A commitment to learning, reflection and continuous improvement.
- Measurable improvements in outcomes, experiences, access to services or the reduction of inequalities.
- Evidence that learning, partnerships and improvements will be sustained over time.

This category is an opportunity to showcase how collaboration can accelerate improvement, strengthen communities and deliver better outcomes for people and places.

Whether your initiative is local, regional or system-wide, we want to hear how working together has helped turn ideas into action and created lasting impact.

Eligibility:

Open to NHS organisations, primary care providers, Integrated Care Systems, local authorities, universities, voluntary and community sector organisations, community groups, industry partners, and collaborative partnerships working together to improve health, wellbeing, healthcare services or population health outcomes through shared learning, co-production and continuous improvement.

The entry questions for the **Collaborative Improvement Award, Sponsored by Boost** are:

1. What challenge did your collaboration aim to address?
2. Who was involved and how were communities, citizens, patients or carers engaged?
3. How did collaboration, co-production and shared learning contribute to the initiative's success?
4. How has the initiative made a measurable difference? Please describe the outcomes achieved and provide quantitative and/or qualitative evidence of impact.
5. What learning has been gained and how will the work be sustained or scaled?
6. How did the partnership overcome challenges or barriers, and what factors were critical to its success?
7. What aspects of your collaborative approach could be replicated or adopted by other organisations, communities or systems seeking to achieve similar improvements?

Entries will be assessed on the following:
Innovation: originality of the idea
Value: impact of the initiative on patient care and/or service effectiveness
Patient focus: evidence that patient/service user need was central to the work
Collaboration: evidence of the involvement of other professionals, services and/or patients in the project
Clinical effectiveness: data demonstrating how this initiative drives clinical enhancements
Leadership: evidence of entrants championing their innovation in their organisation or more widely
Adaptability: ideas that could be adapted for use elsewhere in entrants' organisations or other organisations
Sustainability: initiatives that can be embedded within organisations to operate without the input of the people who developed them

The deadline for entries is 27 November 2026

For further information and to enter please visit: https://brightideasinhealth.org.uk/

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