

**HDRC South Tees are running a series of 45-minute online sessions run over lunch times.**

**To book a space contact [d.newbury-birch@tees.ac.uk](mailto:d.newbury-birch@tees.ac.uk) and tell her which ones and she will send a link or if you want links to all and future events, we can add you to the mailing list.**

<b>Participant-focused research: From planning to implementation: 24<sup>TH</sup> October 2024, 12.00-12.45</b>	In this session, <b>Dr Shiri Portnoy</b> will explore the importance of keeping participants in mind when planning and conducting research. She will discuss what we need to consider when creating online questionnaires, developing suitable materials, and recommended practices of interacting with participants during research interviews.
<b>'Help! I'm a full-time employee and part time researcher get me outta here': 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 12.00-12.45</b>	<b>Sean Harris</b> is a part time student and a full-time employee with Tees Valley Education Trust. This session will look at his tips for juggling both things whilst also having a work/life balance.
<b>Working with people with disabilities: 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 13.00-13.45</b>	<b>Dr Andrew Divers, Dr Cat O'Neill and partners</b> from the voluntary and community sector will host a session around involving people with disabilities in research and public engagement work. They will present 2 case studies of working with groups of people with disabilities, key learning and outcomes from the projects.
<b>We say we want to do research, but sometimes we are not talking the same language. 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 13.00-13.45</b>	<b>Tracey Crosbie</b> is a Professor of Sustainability in the Built Environment in the School of Social Science Humanities and law at Teesside University. Tracey has been involved in successful research proposals and projects with hundreds of different partners for more than 25 years. In this session she will talk about the key lessons she has learnt when developing research funding proposals and conducting research projects with Local Authorities and charitable organisations.
<b>How do I develop a research question? 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 12.00-12.45</b>	<b>Professor Dorothy Newbury-Birch</b> will talk you through how to develop a question for research and why it's so important. This session is aimed at LA staff but will be useful for academics and students also.
<b>Your network is your net worth - growing partners to enable research and development with your team(s): 27<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 12.00-12.45</b>	<b>Sean Harris</b> is a doctoral student with Team Alpha at Teesside University and a co-applicant on the South Tees HDRC. He also works for Tees Valley Education Trust and freelance journalist in education. Sean will share examples from working with schools, the charity sector, and other organisations to help consider how to grow our network opportunities and partnerships. The session promises to provide practical tools, resources and be interactive in style.
<b>A teacher, a student and a professor walk into a school and do a piece of research: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 12.00-12.45</b>	<b>Sean Harris (teacher), Michael Chay-Hayden (student) and Dorothy Newbury-Birch (Professor)</b> talk about a piece of research they did together which resulted in a book chapter of a book published by Routledge on how to do co-production work.
<b>Exploring digital storytelling as a knowledge exchange approach, 11<sup>th</sup> December, 12.00-12.45</b>	This is our last session of 2024, and we have a great session led by <b>Antonia Liguori</b> , Professor of Participatory Storytelling and Public Policy at Teesside University, will reflect on how different storytelling approaches could blur boundaries and expand opportunities for collaborative research, while proposing mutual learning and co-creation of knowledge as a way forward to improve our society.

<p><b>What is a Randomised Controlled Trial and why should I be involved in one? 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p><b>Professor Simon Coulton</b> (University of Kent) will explain what a randomised controlled trial is, why they are important and how Local Authorities can engage with them.</p>
<p><b>How many is enough? An exploration of determining numbers for surveys and qualitative work. 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025, 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p>In this session, <b>Dr Lee Copping</b> will explain the importance of determining the right number of participants for surveys, including basic methods for calculation and the concept of power analysis. <b>Dr Alex Kyriakopoulos</b> will cover sample size in qualitative research, the specific needs of different methods, and the balancing depth and breadth of data. The session is designed to provide practical guidance for non-experts.</p>
<p><b>What is a process evaluation and why are they important? 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025, 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p><b>Nadine Hendrie</b> from the University of Kent has conducted several process evaluations. She will talk us through what these are and why are they important using some real examples.</p>
<p><b>What is the difference between brief advice and brief interventions? 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p><b>Professor Dorothy Newbury-Birch</b> from Teesside University will look at what brief advice is and what brief interventions are for behaviour change using alcohol as an example. How can we use them? Who can do them? Are they difficult?</p>
<p><b>What do we know about Health Technology Assessments 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p><b>Dr John Downey</b> (University of Plymouth) will present this session as a request from one of our LA partners. Health Technology Assessments are used to provide evidence-based advice to support policy making that is equitable and efficient. The health system has scarce resources and HTAs provide a systematic process to appraise the best available evidence for a specific health technology/treatment and provide a multidimensional overview of impact in comparison to alternative options. He will provide an overview of key health economic concepts to underpin the groups understanding of the utility and limitations of HTAs and how they could be applied in emerging digital health interventions</p>
<p><b>Social Network Mapping in Local Government 7th February 2024 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p>The session will cover the basics of Social Network Mapping and innovative ways it can apply wide array of contexts within local government. <b>Alex-Jade Delahunty</b> will showcase how the method is being applied within City of Doncaster Council to monitor performance of the local HDRC</p>
<p><b>Adopting a trauma-informed approach to research 12<sup>th</sup> February. 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p>In this talk <b>Dr Nikki Carthy</b> from Teesside University will cover the principles of trauma-informed care and how this applies to designing and conducting research. She will also discuss some ethical issues to consider when designing trauma-informed research.</p>
<p><b>Amplifying voices: participatory research with people with long term neurological conditions 18<sup>th</sup> February 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p><b>Katherine Jackson</b> has worked with people with long term neurological conditions and as a senior lecturer. She will discuss her PhD research of participatory research with people with long term neurological conditions and implications for practice for Local Authority staff.</p>
<p><b>Brief alcohol and drug interventions in the criminal justice system. 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 12.00-12.45</b></p>	<p>This session was a request from one of our LA partners and will follow on from the session on the 29<sup>th</sup> January. <b>Professor Dorothy Newbury-Birch</b> will look at the evidence for brief interventions for alcohol and drug</p>

	interventions in the criminal justice system and will look at the tools and tips she has learned from 20 years of research in this field.
<b>Using creative writing in practice and research 5th March 2025 12.00 - 12.45</b>	<b>Dr Sophie Nicholls</b> will introduce you to some ways of using creative and reflective writing techniques in your own practice to support your wellbeing and professional development; as well as ways that you can use creative writing in co-creating, evaluating and sharing your research.
<b>Embedding experimentation in local government decision-making. 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 12.00-12.45</b>	In this session, <b>Dr Natalie Butcher</b> (TU) following on from the sessions on RCTs will introduce you to experimental research methods, including the pitfalls and challenges that must be considered when conducting experimental research. This session will demonstrate how controlled experiments can be used to inform and enhance local-government decision-making.
<b>How can I judge the quality of a quantitative study? 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025, 12.00-12.45</b>	There is increasing emphasis on evidence-based practice and data driven decision making in professional practice. It is essential for professionals to be able to critically analyse the evidence they base their decisions on. However, it can be challenging to judge the quality of a quantitative study. <b>Dr Lawrence Nnyanzi</b> (TU) will focus on critical appraisal of quantitative studies with a view to build capacity of professionals to identify the limitations and strengths of a study and judge overall validity and reliability.
<b>How can I judge the quality of a qualitative study? 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 12.00-12.45</b>	There is increasing emphasis on evidence-based practice in professional practice. It is essential for professionals to be able to critically analyse the evidence they base their decisions on. However, it can be challenging to judge the quality of a qualitative study. <b>Dr Lawrence Nnyanzi</b> (TU) will focus on critical appraisal of qualitative studies with a view to build capacity of professionals to identify the limitations and strengths and to judge overall trustworthiness.