RESEARCH GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
BIOGRAPHIES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr Kerry Bell
*Research Fellow, Department of Health Sciences, University of York*
Kerry is a research fellow in York Trials Unit and currently holds a split role between trial management and health economics. She has a background in Psychology and is particularly interested in child development and the home learning environment. Kerry has experience in a broad range of research methodologies in areas such as randomised controlled trials, observational, cohort and case-control studies. These have spanned a broad range of health related fields including; educational attainment, psycholinguistics, macular degeneration, functional magnetic resonance imaging, osteoporosis, maternity services, wound care, podiatry, palliative cardiology, and cancer.

Professor Helen Elsey
*Senior Lecturer in Global Public Health, Department of Health Sciences, University of York*
Helen’s research interest is in urban health in low-income areas and countries. This includes developing and testing interventions that address risk factors associated with urbanisation including tobacco use and dietary change and identifying health system adaptations to engage and reach the urban poorest. Trained as a public health specialist in Yorkshire and Humber, her research uses mixed-methods, implementation science, participatory techniques and systematic reviews. She is co-director of an FCDO-funded research consortium ‘CHORUS’ to improve urban health systems in Ghana, Nigeria, Nepal and Bangladesh and works with partners in Africa and Asia on a range of urban health and health systems projects.

Sandra Forbes
*Lay Member*
Sandra spent most of her career as a qualitative researcher and policy advisor in a variety of central and local government roles. More recently she has been a researcher on health related issues for the voluntary sector. She has an MA in Education and her main area of interest for many years was in education and training policy with experience in running research projects in schools. While in local government she managed large scale surveys. Since ceasing full-time work she has volunteered with York Archives, Healthwatch and PPI at University of York.

Dr Su Golder
*Senior Research Fellow, Department of Health Sciences, University of York*
Su is a qualified information specialist with over 20 years’ experience. She has worked in lots of different settings and has a wide breadth of experience in systematic reviews of healthcare interventions. She has specialist expertise in information retrieval, social media research, adverse effects and systematic review methodology and has taught in this field. Her current research is on the use of unpublished data, text mining and social media to maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of the retrieval of adverse effects data. She has also studied the ethics of using social media data in research.

Professor Catherine Hewitt
*Statistics and Trials, York Trials Unit, Department of Health Sciences, University of York*
Catherine is a Professor of Trials and Statistics, Deputy Director of York Trials Unit and Deputy Head of Research in the DoHS. She trained in Mathematics and Statistics and her research has specifically focused on developing, refining and applying statistical methods in the conduct of randomised controlled trials. Catherine works across a broad spectrum of health and social sciences topic areas.
Professor Stephen Holland (Chair)
Professor, Departments of Health Sciences and Philosophy, University of York
Stephen’s main research interests are in Ethics, including bioethics, public health ethics, and the philosophy of value. Previously, Stephen participated in the NHS Management Training Scheme (1992-4) before undertaking health systems research at the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, and the Centre for Health Economics at the University or York.

Dr Debra Howell
Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Epidemiology and Cancer Statistics Group, Department of Health Sciences, University of York
Debra is an Associate Professor and Deputy Director of the Epidemiology and Cancer Statistics Group (ECSG), overseeing all data collection for the Group’s clinical/epidemiological studies. With a background in nursing and anthropology, Debra leads ECSG’s qualitative research team, which specialises in patient’s experiences of living with cancer, and has a particular interest in blood cancers (including leukaemia’s, lymphomas and myeloma). Other areas of work include help seeking behaviour, routes to diagnosis, information needs, decision making, end of life and palliative care, and carer experiences. Debra has worked as a nurse and researcher in the UK and various countries in southern Africa. She undertook her PhD in Health Service Research at the University of York, graduating in 2005. https://www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/our-staff/debra-howell/

Pete Mather
Faculty IT Team Leader (Health Sciences)
Pete manages the IT Team in Health Sciences and looks after secure data storage, and some systems administration. He originally trained as a maths teacher before joining Sage Software in the late 90s as part of their eCommerce drive. Pete has worked in Higher Education IT since 2001, where he gained skills in IT infrastructure, including virtualisation, storage, cloud technologies and developing people.

Bill McPate
Lay Member
Bill is a fellow of the Institute of Management Services and following productivity assignments in the NHS became General Administrator of the London Ambulance Service. His final career post was as General Manager of Benenden Healthcare, a mutual society providing healthcare support for one million members. Bill moved the Society Headquarters from London to York in 1990. Following retirement, Bill engaged with other European mutuals to obtain legal recognition for the mutual business model within the EU. He has now had several years’ experience as a public reviewer for NIHR and has served as PPI representative on several research projects.

Dr Liz Newbronner
Research Fellow, Department of Health Sciences, University of York
Liz is a Research Fellow in the Mental Health & Addictions Research Group, where she is part of the Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration team. She started her career as an NHS manager in mental health, community and older peoples’ services and during that time gained an MBA in Health and Social Services Management. She then worked as an independent health and social care researcher and evaluator for several years. She recently completed a PhD in Health Sciences (part-time). Her research interests focus on mental and physical multi-morbidity and she has a particular interest in early acquired disability and mental health, and in the role of and support for family carers.

Sandi Newby (Administrator)
Senior Research Administrator, Department of Health Sciences University of York
Sandi is PA to Professor Brian Ferguson, NIHR Public Health Research (PHR) Programme Director and also the Group Administrator for the Health Services & Policy group; Administrator to Health Sciences Research Committee; Centre Administrator for Centre for Health and Population Sciences, HYMS; Administrator for Health Sciences Seminar series, Administrator to Honorary Sub Group Committee and Administrator to Contract Researchers Forum.
Dr Jo Rose  
*Senior Lecturer in Humanitarian Affairs & Sustainable Development, University of York*  
Jo has worked extensively in complex political emergencies including Afghanistan, Liberia, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. Throughout her career, Jo has worked within academia, policy and practice in disasters, conflicts, and uneven development. Her ongoing work on community involvement in the delivery of humanitarian aid seeks to shape future practice and policy on humanitarian interventions in disasters and conflicts. Jo collaborates with disaster and conflict-affected communities and local partners to understand the research needs and priorities of the local communities. Jo is experienced in using indigenous research methods and co-creating research methods to ensure the methods are contextually appropriate and effective. Jo co-develops an Ethical Code of Conduct with her research teams and helps facilities networks and agencies in developing context-informed Ethical Codes of Conduct.

Lucy Tindall  
*Research Fellow, Mental Health & Addiction Group, University of York*  
Lucy is the programme manager on the ComBAT (Community-based Behavioural Activation Training for Depression in Adolescents) study. Her research focuses on the development and evaluation of low intensity therapies for young people with emotional disorders. Prior to working at the university, Lucy worked as a research trial coordinator in the NHS for 10 years.

Ros Wade  
*Research Fellow, Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York*  
Ros undertakes systematic reviews and technology assessments, primarily for the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment programme. She has led systematic reviews of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions for various clinical indications. She has also completed several Single Technology Appraisals for the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), most recently on treatments for leukaemia and psoriasis. Ros has worked at the Centre for Reviews and Dissemination for 17 years, since completing an MSc in Health Sciences.

Dr Ruth Wadman  
*Research Fellow, Department of Health Sciences, University of York*  
Ruth is a Research Fellow in the Mental Health & Addictions Research Group, where she is part of the Age of Wonder Adolescent Mental Health Collaboratory (a collaboration between the Universities of York and Sheffield and the Bradford Institute for Health Research). Her research focuses on what works to protect youth mental health and wellbeing and the meaningful involvement of young people in research. Ruth is a Chartered member and Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society. She has expertise in both quantitative and qualitative research methods.