# **Information sheet for staff and students requiring ethical approval for research**

# How the Patient Experience and Evaluation in Research (PEER) Group can help before you apply for ethical approval for your researchstudy

The Ethics Committee exists to protect the integrity of research acknowledging the prime importance of human participants. PEER exists to give a human participant view on the way research is likely to impact on the community at large. We offer an “entry level” ethical review as you can discuss your ideas and engage with our impartial but supportive input.

PEER starts from the basis that if you are carrying out research then your focus will be on the effect on people / human participants in one form or another. It may be as an organised group defined or by some factor that will unite them. PEER gives a critical and wider view not tied to an academic discipline. A new or wider perspective.

Public involvement in research prior to Research Ethical Committee approval review helps to ensure studies are ethically acceptable to participants and can help your Ethics’ application.

## How can PEER help my research?

As a researcher you need to think about the people who will participate in your research, what will their experience be like? Are they being given helpful information at the very beginning? Does your information sheet provide answers to questions they might have? Is the information relevant for the people you want to connect with?

Contacting the PEER group means you can link up with local people who will give you an early view on your research that you may not have thought about. E.g. how is the research opportunity being advertised? What will people’s experiences be like if they take part?

## Who are the PEER group?

The PEER group is made up of a small group of local people who work closely with the university, have had some training on research, and have experience of different health conditions/being a carer/using health and social care services. PEER group members are supported by academic members of staff and the Public and patient involvement administrator.

## How do I get to talk with the PEER group?

Researchers who want to link with the PEER group need to email - [CHHS-PEER@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:CHHS-PEER@swansea.ac.uk) and book a slot at a PEER meeting. It’s helpful to send in information about your research first. You can find out more on the PEER group’s webpages - <http://bit.ly/2mjHcAN> and check out the short video for more information - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMliUgMG2A4>

