

**The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)  
Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) and  
NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility (CRF):  
Inclusive Research examples**



<b>Case Title</b>	Developing a qualitative method for community-led research for the Gorton Community Priority Setting Partnership
<b>BRC Cluster(s)</b>	-
<b>BRC Theme(s)</b>	-
<b>Inclusive Research Element</b>	Advice on developing a qualitative and inclusive method for community-led research addressing health inequality.
<b>Rationale for case study</b>	The Gorton Community Priority Setting Project (PSP) is co-led by <i>Vocal</i> (a not-for-profit organisation which connects people with health research), <i>Healthy Me Healthy Communities</i> (a social enterprise which co-produces health and well-being services in Gorton) and the <i>James Lind Alliance</i> (a non-profit initiative which brings patients, carers and clinicians together to identify and prioritise unanswered questions for the attention of health research funders). The project protocol states that Gorton is the highest-priority neighbourhood within Central Manchester. For instance, based on the neighbourhood profile data of Manchester City Council, a slightly higher percentage of people in Gorton have long-term conditions than the overall population registered with GPs in Manchester. The data on urgent care suggest that residents also have a higher risk of emergency admission than the general population. <i>Vocal</i> has been working with the community in Gorton, where there is a strong community group network of volunteer organisations. Based on the previous engagements, project collaborators identified that there was a strong demand for public involvement from the community. The aim of this project, which is funded by the NIHR Clinical Research Network, is to investigate local health and well-being priorities in Gorton. People with local expertise and lived experience in the neighbourhood are shaping priorities and themes instead of researchers coming into the area with a pre-set idea of what to study.
<b>Background</b>	Since June 2023, an Inclusive Research team member joined the PSP Steering Group and has been guiding the project in terms of inclusivity. The duration of the project was from June 2023 to March 2024. The <i>Vocal</i> -led team engaged with 200 people and received 550 community-generated priorities for research. Following the data collection from Gorton residents and theming sessions with contributors from the area, the aim of the PSP was to come up with a list of the top 10 research priorities or areas that can be the launch pad for future research projects. In the top 10 voting, there were 132 respondents.





<b>What we did</b>	A member of Inclusive Research Team (IRT) attended two steering group sessions and contributed to project plans and materials. They also worked with project collaborators to plan and decide how to carry out each part of the PSP. As the resident researcher, the IRT member advised on project elements relevant to community involvement and provided inputs on inclusive methods during a participatory theming workshop. The researcher also co-supervised the sorting and refining of the 550 community-defined priorities from which the top 10 priorities were selected.
<b>What the outcome(s) is/are</b>	Following a Steering Group in March 2024, the 10 research priorities have been published. A journal paper on the qualitative method and priority-setting activities which the IRT member is contributing to is being written.
<b>Conclusions</b>	This example demonstrates effective joint working between different parts of the Manchester BRC / CRF inclusive research infrastructure and the importance of consulting with communities to identify local research needs to allow targeting of inequalities and populations within the BRC / CRF geographical area.
<b>Recommendations</b>	Researchers will be able to access the top-10 research priority list when planning a study in relation to their Clusters/Themes for inclusive research. They can use the list to inform and refine their research question(s) and protocol development. This work shows how researchers can connect with community groups for participatory research.
<b>Future work</b>	The proposed 10 research priorities will help to inform future research priorities, projects and grant applications in the local area.

