

Appendix 5

Codes	Clustering Codes	Final Theme	Subtheme
• Researcher: open to feedback and views • Public: space to listen – to learn, build capacity in being able to contribute more meaningfully later on • Benefits of pre-meetings for researchers - space to reflect • Importance of public partners offering ongoing feedback regarding process • Importance of researchers offering space for feedback. comment from public partners re process (e.g. payments) • Space to disagree • Space to talk, and space to talk versus time constraints • Set a slower pace which prompted reflection	Space to listen Space to reflect Space for feedback Space to disagree Space to talk Space to reflect	<i>We need support and space at the table</i>	SPACE Creating safe space to listen, challenge and learn
• Ways to support the public partners • Attempts to level the playing field • Benefits and challenges of pairs of public and methodologists • Benefits of pre-meetings for public partners • Supports need to have purpose / use • Extra supports for individuals (e.g. email, extra reading material) • Iterative and experiential learning • When extra supports no longer needed • Balancing the different needs of the public partners (challenging and supports that worked)	Support Benefits of support Iterative support and learning Balancing different needs	<i>We need support and space at the table</i>	SUPPORT Define and develop support needed for meaningful involvement

• Purpose of pre-steering group meeting needs to be clear • Researchers striving for meaningful and purposeful engagement of public partners • Researchers recognised the need for public partners • Perception from public partners of PPI being valued, receptiveness, acceptance, listening, openness • Challenges in methodology topic – supports needed • Benefits of peer support • Room for improvement – more guidance around pairs; context • Benefits of supports – increase in public partners contribution; valued and perceived value • Ease of payment supports, clarity and transparency of payment; needs met, feeling valued • Benefits of working as part of a group – not a lone voice, range of experience, sparking ideas, mutual learning	Iterative personalised support Supporting meaningful involvement Supporting meaningful involvement, benefits of meaningful involvement Benefits of group		
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