

Research and Innovation Committee Chair's Report from 1st February 2022

Public Board Meeting 31st March 2022

Presented for:	Information
Presented by:	Dr. Phil Wood
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Previous Committees:	NONE

Trust Goals	
The best for patient safety, quality and experience	✓
The best place to work	✓
A centre for excellence for research, education and innovation	✓
Seamless integrated care across organisational boundaries	✓
Financial sustainability	✓

Trust Risks (Type & Category)				
Level 1 Risk	(✓)	Level 2 Risks	(Risk Appetite Scale)	Risk
Workforce Risk		Workforce deployment risk: We will deliver safe and effective care through the deployment of resources with the right mix of skills and capacity to do what is right	Cautious	↔ (same)
Operational Risk		Business Continuity Risk: We will develop and maintain stable and resilient services operating to consistently high levels of performance	Cautious	↔ (same)
Clinical Risk		Research, Innovation and Development risk: We will deliver agreed minimum research and innovation priorities with health, social care, voluntary, education and private sectors	Cautious	↔ (same)
Financial Risk		We will deliver sound financial management and reporting for the Trust with no material misstatements or variances to forecast	Minimal	↔ (same)
External Risk		Partnership working: we will maintain well-	Open	↔ (same)

	established stakeholder partnerships which will mitigate the threats to the achievement of the Trust's strategic goals.		
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Key points	
1. To provide an overview of significant issues of interest to the Board, highlight key risks discussed, key decisions taken, and key actions agreed from Research and Innovation Committee meeting held on Tuesday 1st February 2022.	Information

1. Introduction

This is the ninth Chair's Report from the Research & Innovation (R&I) Committee, which provides an overview from the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1st February 2022 highlighting issues, risks discussed, and key actions agreed. This meeting was held via TEAMS.

2. Significant Issues of Interest to the Board

3D LifePrints

The committee received a short presentation from 3D LifePrints, a company that has taken up residency in the Innovation Pop-up in the last 12 months. The presentation outlined how they work with clinical teams and highlighted some of the work that they are doing with teams in the Trust around pre-operative planning, in particular the work they are doing with the congenital heart surgery team that is helping to avoid open-heart surgery for some individuals and saving significant stays in intensive care.

Committee membership and Workplan

Proposals to broaden the membership of the committee were discussed to bring in additional attendees from key stakeholders such as the city council, CRN and AHSN. It was felt that this would broaden the outlook of the committee and enhance the visibility of the work going on in the Trust amongst key partners. Internal membership would also be strengthened to support interactions with other parts of the organisation where required. It was agreed that as part of the 22/23 workplan a calendar with major funding bid deadlines on would be prepared so that the committee had sight of it and could provide support and input as required.

Research Operations Report

The research operations report highlighted the strong recruitment performance in the year to date and the impact of the additional investment that has been secured to the end of the financial year from the Clinical Research Network to help address some of the challenges with the local setup and approval process (due to the numbers of studies) as evidenced by NIHR metrics. A deeper dive into the setup process will be a topic for a future meeting. The committee also heard about the work of the PPIEP (Patient and Public Involvement, Engagement and Participation) team and the Marketing and Communications function within R&I; communications is particularly important in engaging trust staff more widely in research and innovation. The PPIEP team will present more on their work at the next meeting.

NIHR Biomedical Research Centre

The BRC team reported that they had received a "green" rating overall based on their annual report. The 2022 bid is waiting to hear whether it has been shortlisted for interview in May and mock interviews are currently being undertaken. The BRC is working with other Northern BRC's to ensure there is good visibility nationally of the strength of research being undertaken in BRC's across the North.

NIHR Clinical Research Facility

The CRF team are still waiting to hear on the outcome of the £10.9m bid that was submitted to NIHR in September; the original decision had been scheduled for January 2022 so it is anticipated that the team will hear sometime in February. Deep-dive work into the study portfolio is continuing and the work shows that

there has been a 6.4% increase in the number of studies since the beginning of the year. The new governance structures are being implemented and the CRF is on track to complete all objectives set for this year.

NPIC (National Pathology Imaging Co-operative)

The NPIC programme is progressing well and the work of the finance teams was acknowledged during the meeting due the amount of work required to monitor large and complex budgets and support the procurement activities that have been required to support the programme. Some of the go-live dates for certain sites have been delayed slightly again, this is due to delays in some of the infrastructure needs required to get sites live, but it is hoped that these will complete rapidly over the next few months. A long-term sustainability model is being developed. The NPIC team will come and speak to the committee in the next 12 months about the wider research aspects associated of NPIC.

Health Professional Research Careers

The continuing success with NIHR awards was highlighted as the team have supported successful applications for 4x personal fellowship awards and 1x post-doctoral fellowship award in the last quarter. In total, that means 15x NIHR personal fellowship awards have been secured in the last 12 months - with support also being provided to staff working in other organisations, amplifying the work of the team. It was noted that Kerrie Davies had been awarded the CSO's UK Healthcare Scientist of the Year award for her work on COVID diagnostics.

Major Bids

The committee received an update on major bids made that LTHT was a partner on. Both the NIHR BRC and CRF bids (£27.5m and £10.9m respectively) are still awaiting an outcome and unfortunately the CRUK Centre bid was unsuccessful. However it was noted that the CRUK budget was cut from £190m to £100m for centres and existing centres all got significant cuts. There are opportunities to develop further discussions with CRUK about opportunities on the back of the bid.

Innovation

Considerable progress has been made in the last quarter with the Innovation team and the Innovation pop-up with 6 workstreams:

1. Innovation and entrepreneurship training
2. Engagement across organisation
3. Business engagement
4. Events (virtual currently) to support community creation
5. Project development
6. Estates / Innovation District development

A wide range of projects are being developed and implemented, including a range of collaborative projects with universities and industry partners and the team supported the recent "Innovation" competition run by Leeds Hospital Charity, helping teams with applications. The monthly Innovation Club programme has now launched which is open to all Trust staff and wider pop-up "members" and the innovation training programme will be launching in the next quarter. The international work is also gathering momentum and work is continuing with partners in the city to implement a Leeds-Israel Healthtech corridor.

Real World Data

The committee were updated on the developing partnership with Flatiron and the work that is ongoing across the patient engagement, data model, clinical engagement and contract negotiation stages. The team is aiming to bring a final proposal to the board around a long-term partnership in March and discussions at a recent board time-out had proved very helpful to the work.

R&I Finances

Claire Gaunt updated on R&I Finance activities and the action plan that is in place to support further development of financial support for R&I activities. Work is ongoing to support the NPIC team with managing their budgets and to more widely embed the lessons learnt from the PWC audit that was carried out. Work is

also ongoing to ensure that all income due that is associated with COVID trials is accounted for and that income is received. A deep dive into R&I finances is planned for a future committee meeting.

3. Key Decisions Taken

None

4. Publication under the Freedom of Information Act

This paper has been made available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

5. Recommendation

The Board is asked to receive and note the Research and Innovation Committee Chair's Report.

Dr Phil Wood
Chief Medical Officer,
Research & Innovation Committee
March 2022