

## Strategic Research & Innovation Committee

## minutes

### Minutes of the Strategic Research & Innovation meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Bob Burgoyne</b>	<b>Non-Executive Director (Chair)</b>
	<b>Prof Jay Wright</b>	<b>Clinical Lead for Research and Director of Research &amp; Innovation</b>
	<b>Keith Wilson</b>	<b>Patient Research Ambassador</b>
	<b>Thomas Pharaoh</b>	<b>Director of Strategy</b>
	<b>Manoj Kuduvali</b>	<b>Medical Director</b>
	<b>James Thomson</b>	<b>Chief Finance Officer</b>
	<b>Shirley Pringle</b>	<b>Director of Research Operations</b>
<b>In Attendance:</b>	<b>Mark Bellis</b>	<b>Director of Research &amp; Innovation, LJMU</b>
	<b>Jennifer Ohlsson-Morgan</b>	<b>Senior Executive Assistant (Minutes)</b>
<b>Apologies for Absence:</b>	<b>Prof Raphaela Kane</b>	<b>Pro Vice Chancellor, Faculty of Health, LJMU</b>
	<b>Liz Bishop</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
	<b>Claudette Elliot</b>	<b>Non-Executive Director</b>
	<b>Jonathan Mathews</b>	<b>Chief Operating Officer &amp; Deputy CEO</b>
	<b>Prof Reecha Sofat</b>	<b>Head of Department Pharmacology and Therapeutics, University of Liverpool</b>

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies noted above.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

All meeting participants were asked to declare any interests in respect of items listed on the agenda. All participants confirmed that they had no interests to declare beyond those that may already be known and on Trust registers.

### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Minutes of the previous meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024 were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

### **4. Action log**

**Action 1:** Refreshed SOF on the agenda for discussion. Action closed.

**Action 2:** Conversations with Head of Fundraising ongoing. Action closed.

**Action 3:** Unfortunately, Health Innovation NW representative unable to attend. To be invited to February' meeting.

### **5. Research SOF**

SP provided an overview of the Research SOF (Strategic Oversight Framework) and colleagues were asked to review the SOF circulated prior to the meeting.

The target for recruitment to time and target for research is 80%. This has been achieved for our commercial research but needs further work to improve across the non-commercial portfolio. Non-commercial targets are being reviewed and Sponsors contacted.

Recruitment is improving with further studies opening, and the trust continues to sustain activity.

The average set-up time is improving and is now being tracked by the governance team to ensure this figure becomes in line with the national target.

PRES survey response continues to be collected with the Trust currently 2nd in the Northwest for number of responses as a hospital site.

Comments and questions were welcomed and it was noted that it was good to see the detailed data and the highlights of where things need to be improved.

It was noted that this is a really good starting place for the SOF, however this needs to be translated into the format used for the Trust SOF and reporting to Board of Directors. There also needs to be a clear distinction between watch and drive metrics on the dashboard. It would also be useful to include timelines. It was agreed that it would be good to have a comparison to compare and see the areas that need improvement. It was confirmed that work will be done to convert into the SOF for the Board of Directors and will be presented and Operational Board at the end of January 2025 and an update provided at the next meeting.

A query was raised on research finances and what will happen with these moving forward and whether LHCH will still have control of this. CFO confirmed that the funding sits within the researching organisation, so this would remain within LHCH.

## **6. Update on new Research Strategy**

JW provided an update on the new research strategy and noted that there was a recent away day with the whole research team. The team discussed research, delivery, governance and data. It is felt that LHCH are now in a position to up the game in research and it is hoped that there will be an increase in recruitment and income. It was noted that it is important that the strategy enables LHCH to work towards the bigger aims of the city and the region. There has been a delay whilst the Trust works towards getting the right people in post, but the focus is on getting the right people, working in the right way so that research can break even or make a profit.

A query was raised on whether there will be a completed document and a timeline for this. JW confirmed that there is a citywide strategy meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025. There has been guidance not to create a specific LHCH strategy. MK added that the strategy needs to be negotiated and should work with the wider footprint and feed into the Liverpool strategy. It is important to also engage with all Partners in Liverpool.

SP added that the team are already doing a lot of what is planned, and the sharing of best practice is already happening between the organisations.

Strategic R&I colleagues were asked to note the proposal for the Consultant Research PAs and the application form. JW informed colleagues that research PAs will be stripped out of job plans from April and this application will replace this. This process will go through Board of Directors and The Executive Group for approval. The application will award PAs for two years and then it will be reviewed. There is an expectation however that individuals will want it longer term. JW noted that this form has been circulated to all Medical Directors and Professor Rod Stables for feedback. Feedback is expected in the coming days.

Comments and questions were welcomed, and a suggestion was made that plans, objectives and aims for the future be included on the forms.

It was agreed that this form will be taken forward for approval.

## **7. Research Finance Report**

JW provided an overview of the research finance report and it was noted that the over achievement related to additional pharmacy funding and commercial incentive funding. Income from deferred accounts is in-line with budget.

Trial income from both invoicing and EDGE activity have increased over the previous months but the level is still below that required to breakeven. The shortfall will be met from deferred accounts. The amount transferred from the research account in order to return balanced year to date position is £183k.

There is a small overspend related to 2024 – 2025 pay awards. Non-pay

is in-line with budget.

CFO added that it is important to keep incentivising clinical teams to do the right thing around research and having control and visibility is important. JW added that to add further assurance, research were reviewed by MIAA two years ago and were considered satisfactory. A number of recommendations were made and implemented.

#### **8. Partnership working and update from partners**

Mark Bellis updated colleagues that the university have now moved to two faculties. Science and technology have now joined health sciences. This is a good opportunity as the research portfolio includes computing and artificial intelligence and any opportunities will be shared with the committee.

#### **9. Research news and key successes**

JW updated the committee that across the region £5.7m has been awarded. There is already a fantastic first in man clinical research facility and an amazing ward based at LUHFT and drug companies will come to LUHFT and will look to LHCH to lead on cardiovascular research. This money will fund anything from governance framework to research delivery.

#### **10. Report on Innovation agenda**

TP gave an update on the innovation agenda and noted that the innovation strategy is very similar to the research strategy at the moment and there is a developing picture across Liverpool. It was agreed that Phil Jennings from HINWC will attend the next meeting to present and update.

#### **11. Minutes from the last operational R&I committee**

Colleagues were asked to note the minutes from the last operational R&I Committee.

There were no further comments or questions.

#### **12. Strategic R&I Business Cycle**

SR&I Colleagues were asked to note the Strategic R&I business cycle. There were no further comments or questions.

#### **Date and time of next meeting:**

18<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 1.30pm – 2.30pm, MS Teams