

Name of Sub-Committee:	Research & Innovation Sub-Committee
Chair of Sub-Committee:	Professor Philip Kloer, Medical Director/Deputy Chief Executive
Reporting Period:	Meeting held on Monday, 10 th January 2022

Key Decisions and Matters Considered by the Sub-Committee:

The Research & Innovation Sub-Committee (R&ISC) last met on 10th January 2022. The purpose of this report is to provide the People, Organisational Development and Culture Committee (PODCC) with a summary of the key points against the agenda items.

Research

- **Strategy Work Plan**

- Whilst some activities are running behind the agreed timeline, it is expected that all actions will be completed by the end of the financial year.

- **Team Report - noted and accepted**

- 11 portfolio studies have been opened across the sites in the last 2 months, increasing the number of studies opened this year to 28. This is on track to correspond with the previous pre-COVID-19 year.
- Recruitment continues well. 357 patients were recruited into studies during November and December 2021, 173 of whom have been entered into COVID-19 studies.
- A new Research & Development (R&D) SharePoint page has been developed to disseminate research and to draw attention to research work undertaken by Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) employees, and is now live. The page can be accessed via the following link: [Research and Development @ Hywel Dda University Health Board - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- 3 out of 8 innovation grant applications, supported by the Development Team, have been successful.
- Mr Peter Cnudde, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, has been successful in his application to Health Care Research Wales (HCRW) for one of the Research Time Awards.
- The serious breach of Good Clinical Practice (GCP) identified at the last meeting has been addressed

- **Department Risk Register - report noted and accepted**

- Risk 1160 is the only directorate risk and is related to the requirement for additional Principal Investigators. Further progress against the actions in place to mitigate the risk has been achieved and is detailed below.
- Risks 1035 and 1036 - departmental risks related to lack of research space in Bronglais General Hospital (BGH) and Withybush General Hospital (WGH) were escalated to PODCC at its last meeting. Prof. Kloer has arranged meetings with the hospital leads at each site in an attempt to drive progress forward.

- **Governance Report from Research Quality Management Group (RQMG) - noted and accepted**

- It was advised that a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), "Management and Escalation of Monitoring and Audit Findings, Errors and Near Misses in Research" will be brought to the next R&ISC. This will include a 'Consequences Framework' to encourage researchers' compliance with GCP, to impose sanctions where

necessary and to hold Chief Investigators (CIs) /Principal Investigators (PIs) to account.

- **Financial Report - noted and accepted**
 - The financial position at the end of 2021/22 is set to breakeven.
- **National Developments – verbal report**
 - R&I continue to meet with HCRW to discuss the financial settlement for R&D for 2022/23, as a result of an increase in funding at UK level.
- **Local Performance Framework – report noted and accepted**
 - HCRW have created a monthly Power BI dashboard to demonstrate R&I delivery performance metrics.
 - R&D, Finance and Informatics are working together to produce a Power BI dashboard to share measurements against the Strategy. The dashboard will include bi-monthly, quarterly, 6-monthly and annual reports. A draft will be ready for the next R&ISC.
- **Clinical Leadership Across R&D – report noted and accepted (related to Risk 1160)**
 - Following a recent lack of research leadership, a team of clinical leads have been appointed:
 - Consultant surgeon based in Glangwili General Hospital (GGH).
 - Oncologist providing leadership in oncology studies across all sites.
 - Sexual health consultant providing leadership in both primary and community studies across all sites.
 - Progress is being made on a regional ophthalmology post, which will have dedicated sessions for research within HDdUHB.
- **Peer Review Report - noted and accepted**
 - A peer review was undertaken on 10th and 11th August 2021.
 - The report has now been received and shared with the R&ISC.
 - A management action plan has been developed with it agreed that these actions will be incorporated into the R&I Strategy Action Plan.
- **Commercial Studies – report noted and accepted**
 - Introducing commercial studies into the GGH and BGH sites is one of the objectives in the Research & Innovation Strategy.
 - A plan has been put in place to manage the start-up of this activity.
 - Funding for a research nurse has been requested from HCRW. Progress with commercial studies is dependent on this appointment.
- **Pentre Awel Report - noted and accepted**
 - A report was introduced setting out HDdUHB's proposed Research and Innovation facility requirements at the Pentre Awel site, incorporating space for the Prince Phillip Hospital (PPH) Clinical Engineering laboratory. Confirmation of these requirements will inform the heads of terms and subsequent lease negotiations with the scheme's proprietor, Carmarthenshire County Council.
 - The R&ISC was content with the scope of the proposal.

Development & Innovation

- **Intellectual Property (IP) Policy – report noted and accepted**
 - A joint IP Policy was developed in 2017 between Abertawe Bro Morgannwg UHB and HDdUHB to provide guidance to staff, recognising both the UHB's role and the employees' role in creating and exploiting IP. There is currently no active IP Policy within HDdUHB.

- It was agreed to develop a new policy, and R&ISC requested that this be completed within 9 months.
- **TriTech Reports - noted and accepted.**
 - TriTech sits under R&I and links in with the R&I Strategy.
 - A 3-5 year business plan is being developed. It will be a collaborative plan with partner universities. The draft business case will be produced in the coming months.
 - A previous risk associated with the Quality Manager being on long-term leave has now been alleviated with a temporary member of staff providing cover from 4th January 2022.

Matters Requiring People, Organisational Development & Culture Committee Level Consideration or Approval:

To note that a new Intellectual Property policy will be developed within 9 months which, following due Written Control Documentation process, PODCC will be requested to approve.

Risks / Matters of Concern:

RISK 1160 (Directorate Risk)

TOPIC	CAUSE	SCORE	ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN
There is a risk of a decreasing research portfolio, both in amount as well as diversity	This is caused by a lack of research leadership across HDdUHB (staff able to act as Principal Investigators)	12	14/01/22 - A competitive process has been concluded that has led to the appointment of three new clinical leads for research (Oncology, Women's Health, and the GGH site). The arrangements will be tested over the next 6 months before deciding whether to extend to other sites and specialities.
			14/01/22 Developments include: - A planned regional ophthalmology post will have dedicated sessions for research within HDdUHB; - A colorectal cancer surgeon has two sessions protected for research initially supported by a grant (Moondance Cancer Initiative), but with HDdUHB commitment to continue to support if successful; and - A research midwife with three days a week for developing the midwifery research portfolio, funded by R&D.
			ACTIONS PLANNED – 14/01/22 Extend the plan for research leadership to nursing and allied health professionals.

Planned Sub-Committee Business for the Next Reporting Period:

Future Reporting:

- In addition to routine business, the R&ISC will receive reports on:
- An SOP, "Management and Escalation of Monitoring and Audit Findings, Errors and Near Misses in Research". This will include a 'Consequences Framework'.
 - Updates on progress surrounding the research facilities in BGH.

- A draft Power BI dashboard for R&D development, quality assurance, and finance metrics
- A final Power BI dashboard for R&D delivery metrics.
- Further information on future HCRW funding.

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday, 14th March 2022