

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 9 th May 2022
Key Decisions and Matters Considered by the Sub-Committee:	
<p>The Research & Innovation Sub-Committee (R&ISC) met on 9th May 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.</p>	
Research & Development (R&D)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R&D Financial Report – report noted and accepted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The financial position at the end of 2021-22 was breakeven. • The initial budget allocation for 2022/23 is £1,119,760, an increase from last financial year. • R&D Team Report – report noted and accepted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two portfolio studies have opened in the last month increasing the total number of studies opened in 2021/22 to 38 which relates well to the ‘usual’ number of studies opened in a year. • The portfolio of commercial studies is growing post-pandemic. There are now four commercial studies open – two have recruited patients, two have not recruited yet. • Performance against the Health Care Research Wales (HCRW) key performance indicator C3 (Recruiting to time and target for portfolio studies) has decreased to 53% based on 32 studies, and the Key performance figure C4 (recruiting to time and target for commercial studies) remains steady since the last meeting at 50% based on two studies. The delay in the sponsor issuing the ‘green light’ and sickness absence in the local team, has resulted in the reduction in Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for one study. • CONSCOP2 – Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB) remains the highest recruiter into the CONSCOP2 study across the UK to date, with 160 recruits. • A grant application for G:Data (a video game based dementia automated test algorithm) has been successful. HDdUHB will form part of a consortium with a share of £500k. Formal notification is awaited. • The BioBank feasibility work with an external body is ongoing. Phase 1 report is now due and this will determine subsequent work. • The HCRW Power BI reporting function for the Health Board is available and can be accessed via this link (Microsoft Power BI) • Progress Against the R&I Strategy – report noted and accepted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three actions have not progressed due to COVID-19 and staffing issues, and will be carried over to Year 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishing a patient group, with advice from the Community Health Council (CHC) (Red) 2. Contribution to the new hospital business plan, in line with the set timetable (Amber) 3. Review of the research and innovation opportunities arising from the Health Board’s annual plan (Red) • R&ISC Group Reports – report and Terms of Reference (ToR) noted and accepted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sponsorship Review Group (SRG) now reports to the R&ISC. A ToR for the Group has been submitted for approval. 	

- A number of studies were waiting to take place. It was agreed that the SRG would meet monthly.
- **R&D Department Risk Register - report noted and accepted**
 - Risk 1160 is the only directorate risk and refers to the requirement for additional Principal Investigators. Further progress against the actions to mitigate the risk has been achieved and is detailed below under the Risks/Matters of Concern section.
 - Risk 1035 (Bronglais General Hospital (BGH) facilities) score has increased from 12 to 16 due to the inability to secure the capital required. The team has increased in size and this, coupled with the lack of office space on the hospital site has resulted in difficult working conditions for staff and, with no end in sight, this is becoming intolerable.
 - Risk 1384 Sudden reduction in staffing. A new risk has been identified as 30% of staff are on temporary contracts. The first of these temporary posts is due to end in September 2022, followed by October 2022 and November 2022. The majority of the contracts expire on 31st March 2023.

Presentation

A presentation was made to the R&ISC:

1. Letrozole Or Clomifene for Ovulation Induction (LOCI) Presentation – Samantha Coetzee

- Samantha Coetzee (SC), Clinical Research Team Leader, Glangwili General Hospital (GGH), attended the meeting and discussed LOCI, a research study for women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS).

Innovation

- **Tritech Finance Update – report noted and accepted.**
 - The financial position is set to breakeven. There was an underspend of £7k in Financial Year 2021/22, which has now been deferred into this financial year's budget to support the completion of a project.
- **TriTech Team Report – report noted and accepted.**
 - Significant progress has been made on the Quality Management System. British Standards are due to begin an audit during the week commencing 16th May 2022.
 - Contracts have been agreed for all four project partners under the TriTech Challenge.
 - TriTech are hopeful of signing a significant contract with Amgen to develop a learning lab for cardiovascular population risk prediction and high intensity intervention in a controlled health system, to target better outcomes.
 - TriTech are due to submit a follow-on grant application bid to Moondance for the AI in prostate cancer diagnosis.
 - The advertisement for the recruitment to the post of Head of TriTech closed on 16th May 2021.
- **TriTech Risk Register – report noted and accepted.**
 - Risk 1144 on the lack of corporate support had now been removed from the Risk Register following conversations with Internal Audit.
 - Three risks remain
 - Income generation (this risk will remain for some time)
 - Quality management (once the ISO registration is achieved, it hoped to be able to remove this)
 - Awaiting Head of TriTech (this will remain open until an appointment is made)
- **TriTech Business Plan – report noted and accepted.**
 - The Head of Clinical Engineering has commenced work on a 5-year business plan and has made significant progress. Meetings have taken place with various parties

and interviews held with industry experts. Positive comments have been received. The first draft of the plan is expected by the end of May 2022.

University Partnerships

- A new format for the university partnerships part of the R&ISC agenda was implemented involving a rotation system, where each partner provides a more detailed overview at one in every three meetings.
 - University of Wales Trinity Saint David: May 2022
 - Swansea University: September 2022.
 - Aberystwyth University: December 2022.

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

- N/A

Risks / Matters of Concern:

RISK 1160 (Directorate Risk)

TOPIC	CAUSE	SCORE	ACTIONS
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	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 six months before deciding whether to extend to other sites and specialities. This will be reviewed at the next R&ISC on 12 th September.
			A colorectal cancer surgeon has two sessions protected for research, initially supported by a grant (Moondance Cancer Initiative), with HDdUHB commitment to continue to support if successful. The appointment of a research midwife for three days a week to develop the midwifery research portfolio, funded by R&D. This will be reviewed at the next R&ISC on 12 th September.
			Prioritisation of posts, and collating evidence to support maintaining posts.

Planned Sub-Committee Business for the Next Reporting Period:

Future Reporting:

In addition to routine business, the R&ISC will receive reports on:

1. A 'Look Forward' report for Year 2 of the R&I Strategy.
2. A first draft TriTech Business Plan.
3. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), "Management and Escalation of Monitoring and Audit Findings, Errors and Near Misses in Research", to include a 'Consequences Framework'.
4. A draft Power BI dashboard for R&D development, quality assurance, and finance metrics.
5. Further information on future HCRW funding.

Date of Next Meeting:

Monday, 12th September 2022