



Meeting Assurance Report to the Council of Governors

Name of Committee / Group	Research and Innovation Committee
Date of Meeting	21 October 2024
Chair	Dean Royles, Non-Executive Director
Lead Officer	David Black, Chief Medical Officer (Development)
Meeting Administrator	Helen Mather, Business Manager

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide in summary an update on the key discussions and outcomes of the above meeting.

Agenda items covered at the meeting

The agenda included the following items:

- Research and Innovation Performance and Insights
- Update on the Research and Innovation Implementation Plan
- Update on the Board Assurance Framework (BAF) – Strategic Risk 7
- Research Executive Committee and Innovation Executive Committee Meeting Assurance Reports from the meetings held in September and October 2024 respectively

Documents approved were:

- Innovation Executive Committee Terms of Reference

Matters to highlight

Specific areas to highlight are as follows:

- It was agreed to formally monitor the progress of the development of an Academic Health Science Partnership on the action log, with an update to be provided to the December meeting outlining firm plans and timescales.
- The Managing Director of Research and Innovation, presented the Research and Innovation Strategy and Implementation Plan update which set out six key pillars and how these had informed the development of the action plan contained in the report.
- Plans for further consultation included several events to test out the plan with Directorate Research Coordinators, and Directorate Research Leads. The information gathered would help distil the implementation plan into several key working areas, whose progress could then be monitored via an action log.
- The importance of meeting the National Institute for Health Research's (NIHR) 40-day set-up and 70-day recruitment targets was highlighted, due to those metrics being proposed as future

benchmarking tools which could determine future key funding allocations. There had been a trend over the past five years of submitting fewer grant applications but with an increased success ratio; this targeted approach but with an increased number of grant applications with a higher conversion rate was regarded as the way forward.

- It was noted there was a Research Capability Funding (RCF) financial shortfall against target to date.
- The Committee discussed the need to pinpoint Sheffield's unique selling points in R&I and to better promote and share this, noting that identifying this underpinned shaping priorities and metrics.
- The committee requested that actions to improve performance be reported in future Meeting Assurance Reports from the Research Executive and Innovation Executive Committees.
- Noted that the Association of British HealthTech Industries (ABHI) Shelford industry event being held on 21 November, for which Kirsten Major would be the sponsoring Chief Executive, and that the event offered an opportunity to discuss how working with industry could be progressed.

New significant issues / concerns escalated including proposals on the next steps to address this

None

Implications

Aim of the STHFT Corporate Strategy		✓ Tick as appropriate
1	Deliver the Best Clinical Outcomes	✓
2	Provide Patient Centred Services	✓
3	Employ Caring and Cared for Staff	✓
4	Spend Public Money Wisely	✓
5	Create a Sustainable Organisation	✓
6	Deliver Excellent Research, Education and Innovation	✓

Recommendations

The Council of Governors is asked to NOTE the update provided.