



Review of Achievements

100 Day Report

July 2013

This report summarises the work we have completed in the first 100 days of operation since the demise of the SHA. It also gives an indication of the work that is planned for the coming months. The transition to the new arrangements has been a smooth one. We are now fully staffed and the new work programmes are underway. We have run events already this year, commissioned and delivered evaluations of our work, and we continue to develop new ideas through the Creative Learning Incubator. We welcome feedback on our work and look forward to continuing to build our approach with stakeholders throughout the rest of this year.

Work Programmes

1. Catalyst Programme

In the first 100 days we have run 1 Catalyst workshop and have 3 further events at the planning stage.

- Adolescent Health – we planned and delivered a half day workshop in April 2013 to follow up themes of work highlighted at the Catalyst event held in July 2012. This workshop encouraged the facilitation of collaboration between academics, health professionals and public health.
- Primary Dental care – a project design team has been set up including experts in the field of dentistry, research and collaboration. The event is booked for 10th October 2013. We are working with the Director of Postgraduate Education at the Deanery to deliver this event.
- Dementia – we met with a number of expert and influential people in the field of dementia, including the National Director for Dementia at NHS England to scope out a catalyst event on dementia provisionally planned for November 2013.
- Work & health – we are scoping an EU-wide catalyst event on the theme of the ageing work force to coincide with the EU year of reconciling work and family life 2014. Event provisionally planned for March 2014 prior to the start of the Horizon 20/20 programme.

2. Releasing Potential (RP)

We are continuing to work with the 24 R&D Managers who completed the first Releasing Potential programme last year. We have also developed new workstreams with other groups under this programme for delivery this year. We have delivered an evaluation of last year's programme and have 5 workshops planned and others in development.

- Evaluation of last year's programme for R&D Managers – we have completed and disseminated the evaluation for the Releasing Potential Programme for NHS Trust R&D Managers. This has been circulated.
- R&D Managers – we have developed a second phase of the RP programme for this group. Two workshops are being offered to support the development of facilitation skills to create a community of practice for this group. Workshops will be delivered by Pace Consulting on 16th July & 24th September 2013.
- Early Career Researchers –
 - we have created and publicised a one day workshop for NIHR funded fellows who have completed a Masters in Clinical Research. (3rd October 2013).
 - Initial planning for a one day workshop for NHS staff undertaking a part time PhD alongside clinical practice (6th February 2014)
- Releasing the Research Potential of Clinical Teams – we met with the Centre for Professional workforce development to plan this joint event aimed at people in leadership positions within the NHS with responsibility for research and innovation (9th October 2013)
- NHS Research Capacity Building – we have met with Manchester Academic Health Science Centre to explore the potential of a joint event focused on developing research capability in non-medical workforce within member Trusts within Greater Manchester. Agreement to move forward and planning is underway for an event in 2014. We have also held discussions with the Clinical Research Hub at Lancaster University to explore the potential of a joint event focused on developing research capability in non-medical workforce within member Trusts. A meeting is organised in July to start planning this event.

3. *Research Intelligence Online*

This is a new programme for us. In past years we have produced wide ranging reports on the key strengths, assets and funding for the North West. The proposal in our Prospectus was to scope out the nature of a centralised research intelligence function to support and actively promote health research.

- Scoping Event – we delivered a scoping event on 4th July which brought together key stakeholders from the NHS, HEIs and Industry to explore the potential to develop a regional research intelligence resource. We are finalising a summary of this event which will be ready in the next few weeks. We will then discuss the options for taking this forward with potential stakeholders and funders.

4. *Let's Talk Research*

This is another new programme building on some of the experiments which were carried out within the Creative Learning Incubator work last year. We aim to lead the country in the way we communicate at all levels about health research. We have distributed a call to the research community. This will be our first activity in this area.

- Using comedy to communicate a research message – a call has been sent out to researchers in the NW to take part in 3 workshops with the Big Comedy Shop to explore the use of comedy to communicate a research message. Application deadline 16th August.

5. EU funding

We continue to work in collaboration with the North of England European Health Partnership (was the NW Health Brussels Office) to deliver a programme of activities which maximises the funding opportunities in Europe for the NW, and builds strong strategic links across Europe.

- Inter-Regional Collaborations –
 - the signed agreement with Cataluña continues to develop. We are working with the Greater Manchester Area Team of NHS England to deliver a programme of work this year. This will include catalyst events and possibly further study visits. Further proposals will be developed through discussions in August with EU Policy Lead and R&D Director for Cataluña.
 - Initial exploratory discussions have taken place to enable collaboration and knowledge exchange with Veneto and Flanders.
- Horizon 2020 Programme – now that the next Research Programme for the EU's budget has been agreed, we are working with the North of England European Health Partnership and the NHS Confederation EU office to scope out the need for information, workshops, events and collaboration with academic and health professionals on EU funding and the launch of Horizon 2020.

6. North West People in Research Forum (NWPiRF)

We continue to host NWPiRF within our team. There have been a number of changes within the Forum in the last 100 days. We are recruiting a new Facilitator. The current Facilitator is moving to a national role with INVOLVE. Membership continues to grow (now over 400, including approximately 50 organisational members). Funding discussions continue with the Research Networks – the Research Design Service for the NW continues to provide financial support.

- Four new Executive Committee members have been inducted into the Forum
- An Abstract has been accepted to PenCLAHRC 'New Developments in Public Involvement in Research' conference in Exeter
- A Joint meeting with Cheshire & Merseyside and Cumbria & Lancashire took place to discuss PPI strategy in the CLRN
- The Forum Executive Committee held a facilitated strategy session to look at strategy 2013-2015
- Conferences and Workshops –
 - Live tweeted International Clinical Trials open day in Liverpool,
 - stall at the Salford Citizen Scientist open day,
 - stand at the Innovation and Effectiveness event at Southport and Ormskirk

7. Creative Learning Incubator

The Creative Learning Incubator brings together people from the world of the arts and from the research community to enrich the development of the R&D community. This is also the programme we use to experiment and test out new approaches before releasing them into our core programmes.

- Evaluation – we have commissioned an evaluation of the creative learning experiments from last year. This will be available in the early autumn.
- Outputs from the workstream – audio, film and text have been shared with participants. Some of the outputs are available on our YouTube channel.
- We have begun to build ideas from this work into the programmes this year. For example, see the work with Big Comedy Shop under ‘Let’s Talk Research’. We are now in discussions with more people from the creative arts, digital media etc looking for new ideas for experimentation this year.

Communications, Strategy Development, Funding and Policy

We developed and disseminated a new NHS R&D North West prospectus. We have also developed a new brand and amended our logo to reflect our new position within the NHS as a devolved regional function hosted by Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust.

We have also updated our profiles and information on the existing website and social media. We have identified a contractor to deliver a new website which is now in development.

We are finalising membership of our Advisory Board and identifying an Independent Chair. This Board will meet twice a year in workshop format to support the development of our vision and strategy for the future work programme.

To respond to the changes in the NHS we have embarked on a major re-engagement exercise to ensure that we are in contact with key leaders across the region and can ensure that our programmes meet their needs.

Negotiations continue to secure future funding. We have core funding from HENW and are continuing to explore funding with the two AHSNs in the North West.

Development of new initiatives

Preliminary discussions held to explore the potential adoption of a **Peer to Peer Coaching** for NHS staff undertaking part-time PhDs. A meeting has been arranged subsequently to explore this further with representatives from HEIs and the NHS.

We have been discussing new ideas for using **Creative Writers** to support the development of novel approaches to communicating research. These ideas are being developed with the Writer in Residence who worked with us last year.