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## ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHT REPORT TO BOARD

This report provides the Board with key escalation and discussion points at the last Committee meeting. A full list of items discussed appears at the end of the report to enable members to raise any questions to the Chair which have not been drawn out in the report.

<b>Trust Board Meeting Date</b>	29 November 2024
<b>Committee Meeting Date</b>	18 November 2024
<b>Chair</b>	Hannah Rowan

### KEY ESCALATION AND DISCUSSION POINTS

#### ALERT

(Alert the Board to areas of attention)

- Members highlighted that whilst the allocation of resourcing is an Executive decision, it is crucial to have the Board's commitment to support the research and development framework governance. Limited funding hinders the ability to embed Research and Innovation (R&I) activities effectively and develop a strong foundation for future growth. A proposal for building the core fundamentals will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Members approved the slightly reframed **Committee Priorities for 2024/25** which included the University Trust Status (UTS) benefits realisation and a clearer articulation of the Committee purpose and focus. The Board is **asked to approve** the revised Priorities for the Committee. The detail can be viewed in the [Committee papers](#).

#### ADVISE

(Detail any areas of on-going monitoring, approvals, or new developments to be communicated)

- The Chair welcomed the Trust's new **Academic Non-Executive Director**, Professor Hayley Hutchings, to her first meeting having joined the Board from 11 November 2024 and Carl Kneeshaw as the Trust's new **Director of People**.
- Members received a spotlight on innovation in the closed session of Committee, given the commercial sensitivity of the project, noting the progress made towards integrating **drone technology** within its operations to enhance emergency response capabilities.
- Reflections** from members of the meeting noted that there was a strong direction on the future priorities, both for the University Trust Status and for the Committee; succinct papers and presentations; and that progress is being made with great insight into the work and focus of the Committee with thoughts about how discussion is turned into action.



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## ASSURE

(Detail here any areas of assurance the Committee has received)

6. Members received an update on the **University Trust Status (UTS) Benefits Realisation** and endorsed the consolidated ideas and proposed priorities for inclusion in the 2025-28 Integrated Medium Term Plan (IMTP). The priorities included a commitment to learning, enhancing academic and industry partnerships, and establishing a centre of excellence by 2028, all of which align with the Trust's long term strategy, Delivering Excellence and the Trust's commitment to the Duty of Quality. Members acknowledged the importance of being explicit about the benefits for both our people and patients.
7. The next steps for **Research and Innovation (R&I)** were outlined to ensure research strategies and objectives are integrated as part of routine work across all areas of the Trust and that they become fully embedded into our culture and operations. This will support resilience in the team and address capacity issues. Members recognised the need to prioritise the foundation building process over the next 12-18 months to ensure opportunities for improvement are delivered. The importance of harnessing R&I as an accessible pathway for colleagues to engage in research activities will be built into the foundations and supported by an evidence base to demonstrate their effectiveness.
8. An update was received on the **Research Governance Framework** being developed throughout 2024/25 which includes Research Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) including key achievements, strategic goals, governance, partnerships, research support and communication efforts noting the progress already made to date. Health & Care Research Wales (HCRW) will work with the Trust to conduct self-assessments against the NHS Framework. Committee will receive updates on growing a data science capability in the future.
9. The **Cycle Monitoring Report** was received, noting that the R&I Annual Report has been rescheduled from Q2 to Q4.

## RISKS

**Risks Discussed:** There are no formal risks on the corporate risk register for this Committee.

**New Risks Identified:** No risks raised.

The papers for this meeting can be found by following this [link](#) to the Committee page on our website.

### COMMITTEE AGENDA FOR MEETING

Research and Innovation Next Steps Position Paper	University Trust Status Benefits Realisation Position Paper	Revised Committee Priorities, Cycle of business and monitoring report
Research Governance Framework update		



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COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE				
Name	23 April 2024	July 2024	18 November 2024	23 January 2025
Hannah Rowan				
Prof Kevin Davies				
Ceri Jackson				
Prof Hayley Hutchings				
Estelle Hitchon				
Angela Lewis				
Carl Kneeshaw				
Andy Swinburn				
Jonny Sammut	Aled Williams			
Jonathan Turnbull-Ross				
Duncan Robertson				
Jonathan Chippendale			Kerry Robertshaw	
Prof Nigel Rees				
James Houston				
Jo Kelso				
Trish Mills		Julie Boalch		
Mark Marsden				
Keith Rogers				

	Attended
	Deputy attended
	Apologies received
	No longer member