

WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE OPEN MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE WELSH AMBULANCE SERVICES NHS TRUST HELD ON TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2023 VIA TEAMS

MEMBERS:

Hannah Rowan	Non-Executive Director and Committee Chair
Kevin Davies	Non-Executive Director
Paul Hollard	Non-Executive Director
Martin Turner	Non-Executive Director

IN ATTENDANCE:

Kate Coombs	Life Sciences Hub Wales
Alex Crawford	Assistant Director of Planning and Transformation
Estelle Hitchon	Director of Partnerships and Engagement
Caroline Jones	Corporate Governance Officer
Jo Kelso	Head of Workforce Education & Development
Angela Lewis	Director of Workforce and OD
Mark Marsden	Trade Union Partner
Trish Mills	Board Secretary
Alex Payne	Corporate Governance Manager
Cari-Anne Quinn	Life Sciences Hub Wales
Keith Rogers	Trade Union Partner
Andy Swinburn	Director of Paramedicine

APOLOGIES:

Duncan Robertson	Interim Assistant Director of Research, Audit & Service Improvement
Chris Evans	Research Innovation and Improvement Lead
Jonathan Turnbull-Ross	Assistant Director of Quality Governance

11/23 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and that Kevin Davies' extensions as Vice Chair of the Board and therefore membership of the Committee has continued.

The Chair confirmed that both Kevin Davies and Paul Hollard would be joining the meeting shortly.

12/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The standing declarations of interest of Hannah Rowan and Professor Kevin Davies were recorded, and no other members had declarations to disclose.

13/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2023 were approved as a correct record.

14/23 ACTION LOG AND MATTERS ARISING

The Action log was reviewed and updates were given on the actions around mapping engagement and sharing of the data dashboard with Members.

RESOLVED: That the Action log was REVIEWED and UPDATED.

15/23 TASK & FINISH GROUP UPDATE

Trish Mills gave a brief update on the Academic Partnerships Task and Finish group where the group's terms of reference had been agreed and were now being presented for approval by the Committee. The Committee were also presented with a highlight report from the Task and Finish group's meeting on 3rd April 2023, which set out the key areas of discussion from that meeting.

Members noted the contents of the highlight report and approved the Task and Finish group's terms of reference. Members then discussed the upcoming appointment of a new Non Executive Director (NED) and recognised the importance of recruiting the correct person into the role. Members agreed that it was vital that the incoming NED was equally committed to all Trust business as well as helping to achieve University Trust Status.

RESOLVED: That terms of reference for the Academic Partnerships Task and Finish Group were APPROVED.

16/23 LIFE SCIENCES HUB WALES

Cari-Anne Quinn and Kate Coombs gave a presentation on the work which was undertaken by the Life Sciences Hub Wales (LSHW). Members heard how the LSHW was well placed to support aspects of innovation and commercial developments, as innovation and engagement with commercial partners was an avenue of potential opportunity which could be utilised as the Trust sought to advance its long term strategy.

Members were informed that the presentation was only the first step in understanding what was possible through working with LSHW and would be followed by a question-and-answer session with Committee Members to explore the potential opportunities this may bring. It was noted that any further work beyond that which was already underway with LSHW would need to be undertaken by organisational leads and reported back to both the Executive Management Team and the Committee.

Members received the presentation and queried what LSHW could do to help bring together the various services within its scope to help the Welsh Ambulance Service to not only be the best version of an ambulance service possible, but also to allow the Trust to offer and provide additional services to other organisations across the wider healthcare system.

Cari-Anne Quinn informed Members that the main purpose of LSHW was to use industry, technology, and innovation to achieve practical applications which achieved the desired goals of the individual organisations. Through partnership working, it was entirely possible that this could be accomplished. This would involve LSHW working with the Trust to ascertain and understand what the desired outcomes were, and which tools could be used to make these a reality. Actions were agreed for:

Research, Innovation and Improvement Lead to share the data dashboard with members.

For there to be consideration of how the Committee works with related partners, including the LSH. This relates to existing action 49/22 - mapping of engagement with stakeholders.

For there to be consideration of how the Committee works with related partners and how the Trust's WIIN function sits within this work and engages with the Committee. This relates to existing action 49/22 - mapping of engagement with stakeholders.

RESOLVED: That contents of the presentation were DISCUSSED and NOTED.

17/23 INTEGRATED MEDIUM TERM PLAN) (IMTP) 2023-2026 - ELEMENTS RELATIVE TO THE COMMITTEE

Alex Crawford updated Members on the elements of the IMTP relevant to the Committee, including research, development and innovation and those priorities for University Trust Status that were rolled over from the IMTP 2022-25. The report set out three priorities for University Trust Status, these were:

- Priority One: Digitisation enabling better outcomes (IMTP sections 4.1, 4.2 & 7)
- Priority Two: Advanced practice and specialist working, consult and close and service transformation, including research (IMTP sections 4.2 & 8.3)
- Priority Three: Decarbonisation, fleet modernisation and sustainability (IMTP section 6)

The IMTP also set out deliverables which would be implemented through a Task and Finish group, reporting into the Academic Partnership Committee (APC) which included the structures, leadership and academic representation required at Board level as the Trust transitioned to University Trust Status (UTS) as well as the 'brand' required for UTS, aligned to the Trust's purpose and its strategic direction.

Furthermore, the IMTP also included a set of priorities for research and innovation to be delivered during the term of the plan, with an ask that APC focusses on the following key issues:

- Championing research and innovation
- Understanding where we have partnerships with key stakeholders
- Promote collaboration
- Supporting the ongoing research and innovation agenda
- What can we learn from new partnerships
- Keeping a line of sight to alignment with Trust purpose and strategy
- Developing the WAST 'brand'
- Delivery of leadership and structures through T&F group

Members welcomed the update and recognised the strong governance arrangements which were in place, noting that delivery of the relevant elements of the plan would be through directorate, programme or project structures.

These would then report through Strategic Transformation Board to Finance and Performance (F&P) Committee, and whilst APC was not required to provide this monitoring and scrutiny function, the F&P Committee may request deep dives through other governance arrangements, such as APC.

RESOLVED: That

1. the update was NOTED.

2. the focus of APC on the key issues set out in the report were CONFIRMED.

3. the Committee was ADVISED on any further key issues set out in the report that should be considered by the Committee in line with the IMTP deliverables around research, innovation and University Trust Status.

18/23 HIGHLIGHT REPORT FROM JANUARY 2023 MEETING

The Academic Partnership Committee highlight report was presented as read and for information purposes only, having previously been circulated to Members for review. No further queries were raised by Members.

RESOLVED: That the contents of the highlight report were NOTED.

19/23 SUMMARY OF ACTIONS, DECISIONS MADE AND KEY MESSAGES

The Chair summarised the discussions and drew out the actions, decisions and key messages from the meeting. Actions were agreed for the following:

- Research, Innovation and Improvement Lead to share the data dashboard with members.
- Income generation discussion and ideas for delivery/support to be programmed as a substantive item at the next meeting, and commissioned accordingly.
- For there to be consideration of how the Committee works with related partners, including the LSH. This relates to existing action 49/22 - mapping of engagement with stakeholders.
- For there to be consideration of how the Committee works with related partners and how the Trust's WIIN function sits within this work and engages with the Committee. This relates to existing action 49/22 - mapping of engagement with stakeholders. Duncan Robertson to initiate discussion with Jonathan Turnbull-Ross.

20/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Members were invited to give their thoughts around income generation and which areas of the Trust could be utilised to achieve this aim. Members discussed various options across several directorates, including digital services and clinical support where there was potential for income generation.

Members were also asked to share their understanding of the reasons and justifications for pursuing University Trust Status, in particular the benefits of attaining UTS and what difference it would make to the Trust, patients and stakeholders.

Members reflected on the changing nature of the ambulance service, becoming more clinically focussed whereas traditionally, the focus was simply upon the conveyance of patients. Members cited a number of reasons which justified the work involved in striving for UTS and felt that the cost of doing so was worthwhile. It was felt that UTS would elevate the Trust's standing and give it a much louder and stronger voice amongst peers.

21/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

11 July 2023