

Trust Board Meeting: Wednesday 13 November 2013

TB2013.132

Title	Oxford Academic Health Science Centre Application
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Status	For information
History	Updates have been provided through the Chief Executive's report to date

Board Lead(s)	Sir Jonathan Michael, Chief Executive			
Key purpose	Strategy	Assurance	Policy	Performance

Executive Summary

1. The paper provides the Trust Board with a report on the application being made by the Oxford University Hospitals, Oxford Health, Oxford Brookes University and the University of Oxford for designation as the Oxford Academic Health Science Centre (OxAHSC)

2. **Recommendation**

The Trust Board is asked to receive the paper, noting the content of the application and to receive an update on the interview held on 29 October 2013.

Oxford Academic Health Science Centre

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To update the Board on the progress with the application for designation as the Oxford Academic Health Science Centre (AHSC).

2. Background

- 2.1. In May 2013 a pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ) was completed by a team led by Sir John Bell, Regius Professor of Medicine, and submitted as the first stage of the AHSC designation process. The team also included Sir Jonathan Michael, Mr Stuart Bell, Chief Executive of Oxford Health NHS FT, Mrs June Girvin, Pro Vice Chancellor and Dean of the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, Oxford Brookes University, and Professor Alastair Buchan, Head of the Medical Sciences Division and Dean of the Medical School, University of Oxford.
- 2.2. The PQQ resulted in shortlisting and the requirement to submit the full application by 30 September 2013. Two stakeholder events were held to inform the development of the full application; both events (in July and September) were well attended by the four partners with strong engagement across all aspects of the application.
- 2.3. Eight applications have been shortlisted for interview: Cambridge, Manchester, UCL, Kings/GSST, Imperial, Oxford, Newcastle, and Birmingham.
- 2.4. The final application form was submitted on 30 September 2013 in advance of the interview date, previously notified as 29 October 2013. It is anticipated that the final outcome on designation, which will be from 1 April 2014, should be known during late November/early December.

3. The Application

- 3.1. The Oxford Academic Health Science Centre (OxAHSC) is a partnership between Oxford Health Foundation Trust (OH), Oxford University (UO), Oxford Brookes University (OBU) and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust (OUH) to bring together research, teaching and clinical care activities in the four organisations to address some of the greatest strategic challenges to health care systems here in the UK and globally.
- 3.2. Through the partnership it will be feasible to provide new solutions that can then be applied in clinical settings rapidly, needing to apply innovative research ranging from molecular studies through population based research and research on health systems. Core to this programme will be six interconnected themes that will focus on strategic issues which the partners believe are central to sustaining a successful healthcare system. These are:
 - Big Data: Delivering the Digital Medicine Revolution
 - Building Novel NHS, University and Industry Relationships
 - Modulating the Immune Response for Patient Benefit
 - Managing the Epidemic of Chronic Disease
 - Emerging Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance

- Cognitive Health: Maintaining Cognitive Function in Health and Disease.

- 3.3. The six themes will each involve all partners, further strengthening the strategic relationships enjoyed across the Oxford area. In addition, OxAHSC will rely on the Oxford AHSN to link it to a wider regional health system.
- 3.4. The governance structure builds on existing strategic and operational bilateral partnerships between OxAHSC partners which had been put in place in the last two years. The strategic partnership between the UO and OUH, with the Strategic Partnership Board, is an example. The bilateral working agreement between OUH and OBU is another example reflecting the importance of these relationships in delivering common objectives. The governance of OxAHSC brings together the four partners as a means of recognising the four way partnership and the strengths and value that can be drawn from this without in any way impacting on the existing arrangements.
- 3.5. Board membership means that no additional agreements are required between the partners as OxAHSC decisions can readily be cascaded through each partner in line with existing arrangements. The individual members' accountability remains within their own organisations. OxAHSC will develop a formal working agreement in support of its activities.
- 3.6. The full application is attached in Appendix 1.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1. The Board is asked to receive the full application for AHSC status with effect from April 2014, and note that the outcome of the application will be heard in late November or early December 2013.

Sir Jonathan Michael
Chief Executive

Report prepared by:
Mrs Megan Turmezei, Assistant Director
28 October 2013