MANCHESTER HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (PUBLIC)

Report of:	The Group Joint Medical Director
Paper prepared by:	Debbie Vinsun, Chief Operating Officer Greater Manchester Clinical Research Network
Date of paper:	April 2018
Subject:	GM:CRN Annual Plan
Purpose of Report:	Indicate which by ✓ • Information to note • Support • Resolution • Approval ✓
Consideration of Risk against Key Priorities	The LCRN Annual Plan sets out the strategic activities and initiatives to support the successful delivery of the NIHR CRN Performance objectives It confirms the LCRN and Host Organisations are operating in full compliance with the Department of Health/LCRN contract and are contributing to the National NIHR CRN High Level Objectives The risk of not achieving these objectives is a reduction in funding for Greater Manchester CRN and its Partner Organisations
Recommendations	The Board is asked to approve the GM LCRN Annual Plan
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NIHR Clinical Research Network: Greater Manchester (CRN: GM)
CRN: GM Annual Plan 2018/19

1. Context

The CRN: GM Annual Plan sets out the expectations for Research Delivery across the network during 2018/19 with assurance that this will be in full compliance with the DoH/LCRN Host Organisation Agreement (Section 1). This must be agreed by the CRN: GM Partnership Group (next meeting 09 May 2018) and be formally approved by the CRN: GM Host Organisation Board.

The Annual Plan details the strategic and operational direction for CRN: GM within the reporting year and constitutes the Delivery Plan, Financial Plan, Risk Register and latest Business Development plans and key elements of the plan are given in brief below.

2. Overview

Section 1: Compliance with the Performance Operating Framework

This section confirms that we anticipate the Host Organisation and CRN: GM Partners are able to meet all requirements and deliver in full compliance with the Performance and Operating Framework 2018/19.

Section 2: Key network projects for 18/19, which cover the following key areas:

Governance and Management

- LCRN Management restructure
- Office relocation
- Effective management of Trust mergers and acquisitions
- Readiness to respond to disruptive incidents including a public health outbreak

Financial Management

- Continued review of service support requests and funds attributed appropriately
- Review of financial tools

CRN High Level Objectives

The NIHR CRN High Level Objectives (HLOs) are seven national, overarching objectives for Clinical Research Network delivery:

HLO1: Network-wide recruitment target. The expectation is that CRN: GM will increase the recruitment performance reached in 17/18 and GM, in discussion with all key partners, has increased its target by 18.6% from 2017/18

HLO2: There remains a clear focus on delivery of NIHR clinical research to time and target. Historically Greater Manchester has consistently delivered to the required 80% of studies to time and target across commercial and non-commercial portfolios and the aspiration is to continue to do so. CRN: GM will build on the processes already in place and will continue to support Trusts to improve set-up times working closely with the study teams ensuring local targets are correct from the onset

HLO3: Increasing the number of commercial contracts delivered through the CRN. CRN: GM has an extensive number of working relationships/ partnerships with stakeholders and through this engagement, commercial studies are placed at the appropriate Trusts. The CRN: GM Industry team will continue with this business development

HLO4&5: Reductions in the time to set up a study and the time to recruit the first participant. GM will continue to work with all partners to ensure this is achieved

HLO6: Proportion of Trusts participating in research. 100% of GM Trusts in 17/18 recruited into NIHR portfolio studies. The plan sets out the approach to ensure this remains consistent in 18/19

HLO7: Increase the number of participants into Dementias and Neurodegeneration studies (DeNDRoN). To deliver this HLO it is critical to have a flexible workforce and this continues to be employed through the core team. DeNDRoN research remains a specialist area and cannot be delivered in isolation and partnership working remains a priority working with GM Devolution teams, Dementia United, Strategic Clinical Networks and charities. GM has a strong portfolio of Patient and Public Engagement activities planned throughout 18/19. **Section 3** Specific recruitment targets for both HLO1 and HLO7 are given in this section

LCRN Specialty Activities

CRN: GM supports 30 specialties with each having different needs. We will continue to engage with all the specialties encouraging a flexible workforce model where possible to ensure successful delivery of a broad range of studies across the portfolio. Each dedicated Specialty Lead is supported by a Research Delivery Manager and Divisional Lead. The Annual Plan sets out the opportunities and challenges for each specialty and specific details are given in **Section 4** of the annual plan. Other projects outlined include the following:

- CRN: GM will continue to look for real world opportunities for Primary Care through our existing stakeholder relationships
- CRN: GM Rising Stars initiative aims to develop new PIs across both Primary and Secondary care sites, looking for the CIs of tomorrow and this is underpinned by our extensive CRN: GM research training programme
- **Research for the Future** and **Join Dementia Research** offer opportunities for patients and the public to volunteer to support clinical research across GM and CRN: GM will continue to support these initiatives in 2018/19

Research Delivery

This section reviews the key initiatives that CRN: GM will implement to ensure effective research delivery across the portfolio and includes the merger of the Study Support Service and Industry Teams to enable one approach for researchers working with the CRN

Information and Knowledge

Initiatives for continued successful research delivery utilising new technology include:

- Full implementation of the Local Portfolio Management System – R-Peak
- Development of systems and processes with full support and cooperation of the Host Organisation
- Development of GM App on the Open Data Platform

Stakeholder Engagement and Communications
Full details of all patient, public and partner engagement plans for 18/19 are included with the annual plan. Notably CRN: GM will be supporting NHS 70, Patient Research Ambassador Initiative, International Clinical Trials Day, Join Dementia Research and Research for the Future

Organisational Development
This section details several workforce initiatives including:

- CRN: GM training brochure
- Adult learning and proportionate training pathway
- Launch of Integrated Workforce Framework
- Partner Trust Induction introducing research
- NIHR Advanced Leadership Programme

Business Development and Marketing
Full Business Development and Marketing Plan can be found in Appendix 6.10

Life Sciences
Describes a number of initiatives to support the life sciences agenda including

- Continued work with the Northern Health Science Alliance – collaboration between the LCRNs across Northern England
- Increased collaboration with GM CRFs

Section 5 of the annual plan includes detailed financial management plans for CRN: GM
Section 6 lists the appendices submitted to supplement the annual plan narrative
Section 7 is the glossary

The Board is asked to approve the GM LCRN Annual Plan