

2024/5 Progress towards the six objectives of the research strategy

Audience	Public
Purpose	<p>To describe the progress made in 2024/5 with the implementation of our 2025 – 30 Research Strategy.</p> <p>Our goal is “<i>to be recognised and valued as an organisation where people can take part in, and benefit from, research</i>”.</p> <p>This strategy supports, and contributes to, the organisation being ‘<i>trusted to provide consistently outstanding care and exemplary service</i>’.</p>
Author	Lister Research Office
Version and date	V1 dated 2 nd July 2025
Approach	This information was obtained from the NIHR Funding and Awards website https://fundingawards.nihr.ac.uk/ on 24 th June 2024.
Further information	If you would like further information, please make a request by email to researchanddevelopment.enh-tr@nhs.net

2024/5 Progress towards the six objectives of the research strategy

Objective and success indicators	31st March 2024 Baseline	2024~5 Review	2025~6 Plan
Objective 1 Research to be aligned to local needs: We will listen to, and act on, the voice of our people to ensure our research is aligned with local needs.			
a) People will know that we are a research active organisation, they will contribute to the setting of local research priorities and if our patients take part in a research study then the summary findings of that research will be made available through our website.	External website supported by external communications and use of social media (X and LinkedIn)	Development of website, Public and Patient Involvement in Research Panel reviewed strategy and provides input to Trust Sponsored studies.	a) develop a mechanism (amend or create panels/groups) so that people can better contribute to the setting of local research priorities. b) publish summary findings of our research on Trust website for Trust-sponsored research.
b) People will either be offered the opportunity to take part in research if a suitable study is available or given the opportunity to register their intent to be contacted for a future study.	Study-specific offer for research participation, no ability to record consent to contact	Patients are offered research entry using a range of methods , some teams collect consent to contact patients if future studies become available.	a) explore use of electronic health records to match patients to potential studies b) review and implement approaches so that patients can register their intent to be contacted for a future study.

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Objective 2 Research for All: We acknowledge there is much to do to make research inclusive for all people and we will put in place actions to make research more accessible.			
a) People will be able to see the research we support whilst on our premises through visible posters and electronic displays, by accessing our website and through media campaigns.	Website requires attention	The Trust website has information on research and there are regular meetings with the Trust comms team around wider media campaigns. Initial conversations held around poster and electronic displays. The Trust is an active contributor to the Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System research engagement activities.	a) review website and through media campaigns. b) develop and implement 2025~6 action plan around use of visible posters and electronic displays.
b) We will seek and act on feedback relating to the experience of research participants. We will also work with those who are unable to participate to identify and remove barriers so that they are able to participate in research if they wish to do so.	Review of research participant feedback at R&D Board	Ongoing review of patient feedback	a) ongoing review of patient feedback to address to identify issues as far as practical. b) review research participation to promote inclusion.

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Objective 3 Research in partnership: We will foster local and national collaborations to increase the amount, depth and breadth of research opportunities for local participation.			
a) People will be able to see on our website how we perform against national research metrics and we will put in place initiatives to increase research opportunities for local participation.	National metrics in development	The Trust collects and reviews information on research participation (overall activity and across different care groups) as well as study set-up first patient first visit.	a) metrics to be developed in line with national requirements. b) local metrics to be reviewed and categorised as internal and or external. External metrics to be published on Trust website. c) review and publish initiatives to increase research opportunities for local participation.
b) People will be able to see who our research partners are and we will increase the number of partner organisations and colleagues working in partnership as well as increase research income. This includes the Trust being recognised as an exemplar member of the National Institute for Health and Social Care Research.	Both the Trust Annual Report and Quality Accounts have sections on research and these are in the public domain. Trust supported the national transition of the National Institute for Health.	Information on research partners collected as well as a better undersetting of research income through addressing backlog of invoices and review of aged debt.	a) research partner information to be published on the Trust website. b) research income to be reviewed via R&D Board as well as research triumvirates at each site. c) continued support to the NIHR RRDN East of England.

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Objective 4 Research is a service expectation: We will include the opportunity for people to take part in research as an essential design consideration for all our services.			
a) Colleagues working to deliver and or design front-line and support services (e.g. radiology, pharmacy, pathology, communications and finance) will include research and research participation as an operational requirement.	Research participation seen as an additional requirement for most services other than at MVCC.	Mapping of research capacity, activity and income by care groups completed.	a) Work with the Trust's care groups to embed research aspiration into Care Group planning. b) Support care groups in the development and implementation of a pipeline of research and capacity development to support the needs of the service.
b) Research and research participation will be included in the organisation's approach to service delivery, performance management and operational reporting.	No included	Limited implementation work completed.	a) provide relevant information and attend care group meetings to ensure research is a service consideration. b) produce a briefing note for care groups to explain service benefit of research, research activity and research finances

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Objective 5 Research is everybody's business: We will ensure that all our colleagues recognise research as an essential and rewarding part of effective patient care and that there are also opportunities to devise and deliver research.			
a) We will implement the national research workforce plan for all colleagues to increase our ability to use and or generate research evidence for the benefit of those we serve.	National plan in development, no ENHT plan	The researcher workforce development is based on supporting individuals through a variety of external opportunities.	a) review approaches to develop an organisation-wide approach such as use of the Self-assessment of organisational readiness tool (SORT) for all staff.
b) We will support measures to gain external funding for the attainment of post graduate research qualifications and research internships. This will also include the identification of funding so that colleagues have dedicated time for research in their job planning.	Ad Hoc approach to sharing information. consultant funding programme established.	Continued use of ad hoc approach and of consultant funding programme established	a) continue to support individuals to access various external offers. b) make best use of teaching hospital status to gain post graduate research qualifications and research internships, including the use of the apprentice levy.

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Objective 6 Trusted use of data for research: We will implement national approaches that have public support to make best use of data, digital systems and AI (Artificial Intelligence) to support research in a way that is trusted.			
a) We will review our internal processes so that we can meet all national and local requirements in a way that is proportionate to the risk involved and does not introduce any unnecessary delay to research.	Development of internal processes so that the Trust can review any data or information governance matters in a proportionate and timely manner	Ongoing experience in relation to use of internal processes.	a) continued review to reduce unnecessary delays due to data protection and information governance.
b) We will support national measures to deliver A plan for digital health and social care and the NHS Research Secure Data Environment initiative which is a trusted and secure data and research analysis platform. This will include the capture of research participation on our electronic health record system and the ability to review our records to identify and contact potential research participants.	Ongoing as part of East of England Secure Data Environment	The Trust reviewed paid participation in the East of England Secure Data Environment work. Agreement in principle but de-prioritised in light of work to develop and implement electronic patient record. Raised awareness of desire to capture of research participation and the ability to review our records to identify and contact potential research participants.	a) continue to promote the benefits of the Trust joining the East of England Secure Data Environment. b) devise, implement and review a pilot approach to capture research participation on our electronic health record system with the ability to review our records to identify and contact potential research participants.

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