

2023-24

ANNUAL REPORT



Contact Us



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The Academic Health Science System for Liverpool City Region

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

We are satisfied we now have a strong and motivated team to drive forward work on behalf of our members and the region

I was delighted to start my tenure as Chair of the Board of Liverpool Health Partners in 2023 and be part of the work to drive forward advances in research and innovation in our region.

As you will be aware, LHP has undergone some changes in the last 12 months with a restructure of the team and some changes to our membership.

We welcomed a new Managing Director in Séamus O'Neill, and a new Head of the Joint Research Office, Margarita Perez-Casal. There have been some other positive internal changes and a restructure of functions that we believe better reflect the needs of our partnership.

We are satisfied that we now have a strong and motivated team to drive forward work on behalf of our members and the wider region.

Our members have also made some significant strides in the last 12 months and there have been major developments in the city in research, innovation and data analysis.

What hasn't changed however, is the challenges we face in Liverpool City Region, and it is clear we have significant work to do to tackle the health inequalities our local population continues to experience.

I know that by bringing together the clinical and academic expertise of this partnership we will continue to make progress in improving these health outcomes and in economic productivity.

This report gives a snapshot of some of the activity by the LHP team, and the JRO, over the last 12 months. By convening and advocating on behalf of our partnership we have worked to celebrate the excellence of Liverpool City Region and we will continue to do that with a strong voice.



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We have significant work to do to tackle the health inequalities our local population continues to experience.

Professor Tim Jones
Chair of the LHP Board

ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

Telling the Liverpool story and increasing opportunities for interaction



LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

We co-hosted a panel event at the Labour Party conference with The Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place entitled: “How can health and life sciences boost inclusive growth?” The session examined how NHS trusts and universities in Liverpool City Region can tackle the recruitment and skills gaps in the health service, while providing opportunities for their local communities so enhancing the health and employment opportunities for those most in need. It brought together representatives from the NHS, health and life sciences institutions and politicians delivering health policy.

Use of data, the life course approach and closer collaboration between institutions were strong themes of a lively discussion that sought to identify policy interventions to enhance the contribution of health and life sciences sectors to inclusive growth in local and regional economies.

In Liverpool City Region, 121,000 people are employed in the health and life science sector and the seven NHS Trusts in Liverpool employ more than 34,000 people. However, the recently published NHS Long Term Workforce Plan set out a series of challenges facing the organisation in recruiting and retaining staff and called for increased training and education to retain and retrain more staff.

The event was a great opportunity to bring together leaders from the health and life sciences sector and local politics to articulate how Liverpool City Region could act as an exemplar in tackling the NHS skills shortage while benefiting those communities that need it most.

The panellists:

- **Iain Buchan**, Associate Pro-Vice Chancellor for Innovation, University of Liverpool
- **Ian Byrne**, Liverpool West Derby MP
- **Aileen Jones**, Executive Director Investment and Delivery, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority
- **Jan Ross**, CEO, The Walton Centre
- **Vivienne Stern**, Chief Executive, Universities UK



ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

Facilitating interactions across the city in strategically important areas

We worked with Alder Hey Children's Hospital to facilitate the Innovation Forum.

The event brought together healthcare innovators, industry and academic experts who shone a light on the transformational change taking place in the city. They shared insights into new technologies and innovative ways of working that are helping improve the health of the local population and beyond.

The event was opened by Emma Hughes, Deputy Managing Director of Innovation, Alder Hey, who welcomed colleagues to the Alder Hey Innovation Hub, before a showcase of game-changing work taking place in the facility.



INNOVATION FORUM



Presentations with a Q&A followed, featuring:

- Paul Fergus, Carl Chalmers Biophilia Therapy – LJMU
- Joanna Rycroft Clinical Exercise Physiologists (CEPs) – LJMU
- Emma Hughes, Grahame Smith As One, Alder Hey & LJMU
- Anne Marie Davies, William Calvert, Was Not Brought – Alder Hey
- Mike Kenny Endosign – Health Innovation Network North West Coast
- Rhys Davies Headache Chatbot – The Walton Centre
- Andy Rose, Kurt Christian – LEAFix and DrDoctor – LUHFT

RESET FOR THE JOINT RESEARCH OFFICE

A new way of working with partners in an engaged and involved model

The last year has seen very significant development of the Joint Research Office (JRO) on behalf of Liverpool health Partners (LHP).

The direction received from the LHP Board in mid-2023 was that changes were required and, through engagement with R&D leadership from the partners, a new joint research service was developed.

In workshops and tailored sessions, new possibilities were explored and colleagues were encouraged to lead the design process so that they would feel ownership of the outcome and take an active role in shaping future activity.

The main changes that have been introduced have been:

- A greater emphasis on ownership of the initiative by those it serves
- Better, more constructive, dialogue and engagement with partners
- A change in name from Single Point of Access to Research and Knowledge (SPARK) to LHP JRO
- The repatriation to NHS trusts of SPARK staff and the study setup function
- A renewed focus on a collective approach to support of grants, sponsorship and business intelligence.

There were concerns expressed at the start of the process about a possible negative impact of the changes on delivery of research studies. These have not materialised. In fact, there is clear evidence of increased levels of engagement and more constructive partnership working in the past few months. There is also emerging evidence, in parallel, of improvements in study set-up and delivery metrics.

Crucially, there is a new culture of greater engagement, listening, and the involvement of partners. This has been welcomed and will be built upon in phases that are to come.

To reflect the change in emphasis, structure and scope we have changed the name and logo.

The JRO has been backed up with a very different leadership style and an emphasis on service to members.



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There is a new culture of greater engagement, listening and involvement of partners.

Margarita Perez-Casal
Head of the JRO

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED BY THE JRO

123 SUBMITTED



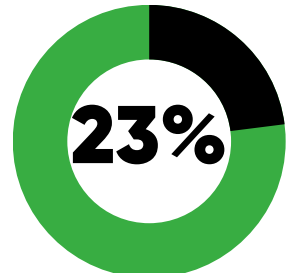
Successful



Unsuccessful



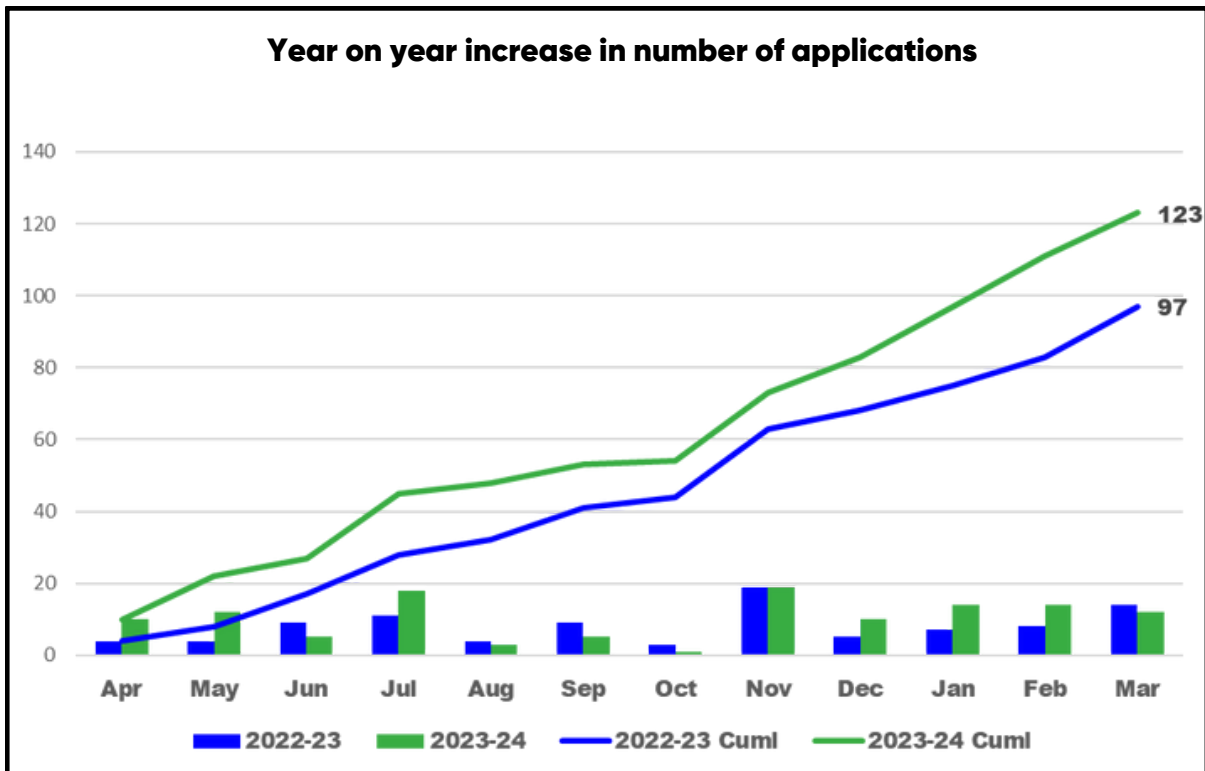
Pending



Success rate
(n=66)

£4.4 million successful application income

OVER OUTCOMES RECEIVED, WITH 57 STILL OUTSTANDING



JRO REGISTRATIONS

Total No of SPARK Registrations Per Partner Trust 1.4.23 – 19.11.23

Trust	Registrations
Alder Hey Children's Hospital	10
The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre	1
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	11
Liverpool University Hospitals	107
Liverpool Women's	24
The Walton Centre	5
Total	158

Total No of JRO Registrations Per Partner Trust 20.11.23 – 31.3.24

Trust	Registrations
Alder Hey Children's Hospital	26
The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre	34
Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital	8
Liverpool University Hospitals	69
Liverpool Women's	17
The Walton Centre	10
Total	164

164 STUDIES REGISTERED VIA THE JRO

REFLECTIONS FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

2023/24 was a period of engagement and reflection

This annual report for Liverpool Health Partners covers a period of re-engagement with our stakeholders and re-establishing the mandate we have. We have also been rebuilding the team and refocussing on opportunities and priorities around which we can support the ambitions of our members.

In practice, we have been **convening** across our members in areas of strategic importance and **advocating** regionally and nationally on behalf of the city's excellence in research and innovation.

We have **a reinvigorated Joint Research Office**, under Marga Perez-Casal's leadership that is overseen by, and responsive to, the research leadership in the member organisations. We are grateful to the R and D Directors and R and D Managers for their input and look forward to working with them to realise the benefits of closer collaboration.

We are **getting the message across to the world** as to the opportunities that exist for mobilising our health and life sciences assets to both address health inequalities and drive economic growth. You will see examples of how Mel Harvey is leading on Communications and Public Affairs, with positioning both the urgency and the opportunity prominently with key opinion leaders and influential politicians across the North.

We are beginning to **facilitate interactions across the city** in strategically important areas. You will see a lot more of this in the coming months but our work on the Innovation Forum event with Alder Hey was a great chance to put into practice the principles and ways of working that define the partnership.

We will facilitate and convene where it is helpful and amplify the message and impact in areas that are already strong. Speaking with one voice about our collective ambition is crucial to breaking the cycle of under-investment and missed opportunities. If we get this right there should be few limits on the scale of our ambition.

I am grateful for the Board's support in the last year. A special mention to Liverpool University Hospitals Foundation Trust as our hosts who have been supremely supportive. But mainly I want to thank the team for their resilience and hard work across a tough transition. I am certain that we are entering 2024/25 in good shape and with no end of exciting work to do alongside our members.



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The principles that underpin our work are that we will act in service of the partnership.

Séamus O'Neill

LHP Managing Director

OUR PARTNERS



LIVERPOOL SCHOOL
OF TROPICAL MEDICINE

Since 1898



Alder Hey Children's
NHS Foundation Trust



**The Clatterbridge
Cancer Centre**
NHS Foundation Trust



**Liverpool Heart and
Chest Hospital**
NHS Foundation Trust



Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust



Liverpool University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Community and Mental Health Services



The Walton Centre
NHS Foundation Trust



Liverpool Women's
NHS Foundation Trust





LIVERPOOL HEALTH PARTNERS

THE ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCE SYSTEM FOR LIVERPOOL CITY REGION



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