

Paper 1: 2021-22 Research Capability Funding Spending against the Spending Plan

Date: 13/04/2022

Author: Paul Roy

Purpose

This paper shows the 2021/22 RCF Spending Plan and the actual spending. The aim is to identify and explain any variance between the Plan and the actual spend.

Section 1 shows the spend by Category, and presents the planned and the actual spend, identifies the variance and provides a reason for the variance.

Section 2 shows the itemised spend listed by category for transparency of spend.

The Advisory Group is asked to:

1. consider the variance presented and the reasons provided in Section 1
2. scrutinise the within-Category spend in Section 2, with the intention of highlighting any inappropriate use of funding, and providing advice where use could be improved,
3. advise on whether we should publish Section 1 of this document on our website.

Section 1

The Spending Plan and actual Spend by Category

Category	Planned Budget	Actual Spend	Variance	Explanation of variance
1. Open Calls	£200,000	£359,463.21	-£159,463.21	The first two quarterly calls were very popular. We believe this was due to a post-Covid rebound on top of standard demand. We were able to move funds from substantial underspends in Categories 2&3, 4, 6, Before actioning, the plan to increase this budget, and was checked with Nick Kennedy and Peter Brindle.
2. Career Development posts	£225,000	£153,382.97	£71,617.03	By pooling this budget with the Departmental Development budget we were able to fund all of our University Partner priority posts. This plan was approved by the Medical Director before being agreed by the University leads.
3. Departmental Development posts	£225,000	£268,919.20	-£43,919.20	By pooling this budget with the Career Development budget we were able to fund all of our University Partner priority posts. This plan was approved by the Medical Director before being agreed by the University leads. This resulted in a combined Category 2 & 3 underspend of £27,697.83 that was used to cover the overspend in Category 1.
4. Launching Fellowship	£80,000	£64,275.54	£15,724.46	2 Launching Fellows were appointed, both on part-time basis and starting mid-way through the financial year. Therefore, the full budget was not required. We used the underspend on Category 1.
5. Researcher in Residence	£40,000	£34,551.20	£5,448.80	The original plan for managing this category was not viable, and a revised plan was proposed during the October Advisory Group meeting. We only received 1 application after the revised

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				management plan was implemented. Underspend moved to Category 1
6. Management Fellows	£30,000	£28,978.37	£1,021.63	N/A
7. Research support and Hosting	£255,000	£189,181.07	£65,818.93	Due to underspends reported at the University of Bristol, as per the terms of the RCF overarching agreement, we reallocated those funds against our Research Team staff based in the University of Bristol. This plan was checked with Nick Kennedy and Peter Brindle prior to being enacted.
8. Bristol Health Partners Annual membership	£60,000	£60,000	£0.00	N/A
9. Bridging funding	£10,000	£1,863.63	£8,136.37	We received one application for these funds during 2021/22.
10. Maternity Sickness backfill	£10,000	£0.00	£10,000.00	We received zero applications for these funds during 2021/22.
11. Extensions to existing awards	£20,000	£9,508.79	£10,491.21	We received 3 applications for extensions to RCF awards.
12. Senior Investigator Awards	£150,000	£149,373.02	£626.98	N/A
13. Contingency	£14,497		£14,497	Spent on Category 1
Total	£1,319,497	£1,319,497	£0.00	N/A

Section 2

Category 1: Open Calls

Lead applicant	Topic	Organisation	Amount
Dr Lucy Potter	Improving primary care services for users with complex needs	University of Bristol	£31,908.63 (was committed in 2020/21)
Dr Emily Dodd	Developing dementia care services for delivery in the community	UWE	£20,204.95
Dr Tom Allport	Improving health outcomes in Somali communities	Sirona and University of Bristol	£38,817.00
Dr Faith Martin	Investigating support for parents of children on CAMHS waiting lists	Coventry University	£40,938.09
Dr Andrew Moore & Elizabeth Williams	Shared Decision-Making tool for Knee Osteoarthritis	University of Bristol & BNSSG CCG	£39,603.30
Mr Rik Lander	ROMI, a conversational artificial intelligence for type 2 diabetes	UWE	£18,373.38
Dr Karen Morgan	Evaluating the value of linking domestic violence services for men with domestic violence services for women	University of Bristol	£20,332.69
Dr Jonathan Evans	Communities underserved by perinatal mental health services	University of Bristol	£26,763.48
Dr Joanna Thorn	Amazon's Alexa Echo Show device for supporting users of social care	University of Bristol	£3,858.60
Dr Jessica Watson	Exploring GP's reasons for ordering tests in primary care	University of Bristol	£10,564.59
Prof John MacLeod & Denise Moorhouse	Pooled budgets between NHS and Local Authorities for children with complex needs	University of Bristol & BNSSG CCG	£39,845.42
Dr Sophie Turnbull	INcreasing Access to digital health Technologies for people from under-served communities at risk or diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes	University of Bristol	£31,557.24
Ilhem Berrou	Digital exclusion and health inequalities	University of the West of England	£3,000
Nicola Harris	Polypharmacy in children and young people (CYP) with complex needs/life-limiting conditions (LLC)	University of the West of England	£3,000

Praveen Kumar	patient-centred exercise and education videos to people with stroke from Asian backgrounds	University of the West of England	£14,611.20
Jane Meyrick	Improving sexual health services for sexual violence (SV) survivors	University of the West of England	£14,790.03

Other spends within this Category are shown below:

Description of activity	Amount paid
PPI review on quarterly applications – paid at INVOLVE rates as per NIHR funding guidance	£294.61
GP Research Development Network – Practices who actively support recipients of CCG RCF with their NIHR grant application development	£1,000.00

Category 2: Career Development Posts

Post	Organisation	Amount
Senior Research Associate/Research Fellow in primary mental health care in Centre for Academic Mental Health, Centre for Academic Primary Care and Population Health Sciences	University of Bristol	£58,075.70
Consultant Senior Lecturer in Public Health	University of Bristol	£23,401.27
Senior Research Fellow in Emergency Care	UWE	£71,906.00

The ratio of spend is 53:47 in favour of University of Bristol over UWE.

Category 3: Departmental Development Posts

Post	Organisation	Amount
Coordinator post for Research into urgent and Emergency Care Hub (REACH)	UWE	£9,914.24
Prof of Knowledge Mobilisation and Musculoskeletal Health	UWE	£17,771.23
Statistician with an interest in primary care	University of Bristol	£62,273.68
Evidence Synthesis in CAPC	University of Bristol	£55,000.00
PPI&E Advisor(s) in CAPC	University of Bristol	£39,367.00
Public Health SRA	University of Bristol	£55,993.05
Modeller	University of Bristol	£28,600.00

The ratio of spend is 90:10 in favour of University of Bristol over UWE.

For the pooled Career Development and Departmental Development posts the ratio of spend is 76:24 in favour of University of Bristol over UWE. Our aim was to achieve 75:25.

Category 4: Launching Fellowships

Awardee	Area of expertise	Organisation	Amount
Dr Anna Bibby	Reducing inequalities in cancer screening	University of Bristol	£37,389.89
Dr Charlotte Archer	Managing Anxiety in primary care	University of Bristol	£26,885.65

Category 5: Researcher in Residence

Role	Organisations	Award
CCG Fertility Policy survey analysis	BNSSG CCG & UWE	£2,140.20
Embedded researcher within Population Health Management (PHM). Joint role with Biomedical Research Centre (BRC)	BNSSG CCG & University of Bristol	£27,437.29
Primary Care Programme	BNSSG CCG & University of Bristol	4,973.71

Category 6: Management Fellowship

Role	Organisations	Award
System Clinical Leadership Fellowship	BNSSG CCG	£13,475.13
PhD partnerships and KM Training	BNSSG CCG & UWE	£15,503.24

Category 7: Research support and Hosting

Post	Organisations	Amount
Research Manager	BNSSG CCG	£67,706.86
Senior Research Fellow	BNSSG CCG & UWE	£23,314.76
Research Portfolio Manager	BNSSG CCG	£50,063.43
Research Finance Support	BNSSG CCG	£30,673.31
Bristol Trials Centre contribution (part-funding for 1 post)	University of Bristol	£17,422.71

Category 8: Bristol Health Partners Annual membership

Post	Organisations	Amount
Project Managers (3x)	Bristol Health Partners Academic Health Science Centre	£60,000

Category 9: Bridging Funding

Applicant	Organisation	Bridging from	Bridging to	Amount
Dr Christie Cabral	University of Bristol	Mid-Career Post-Doctoral Fellowship	NIHR HS&DR grant	£1,863.63

Category 10: Maternity & Sickness cover

No spend to report

Category 11: Extensions to Existing Awards

Applicant	Organisation	Original RCF Category	Reason	Amount
Kirsti Kavanagh	University of Bristol	Research support and Hosting	AcoRD training	£250
Mary Cramp	UWE	Responsive call	Resubmission of RfPB grant	£6,551.85
Elizabeth Jenkinson	UWE	Responsive call	Covid delays	£2,706.94

Category 12: Senior investigator Awards

Both our Senior Investigators are employed at the University of Bristol.

Post	Senior Investigator	Amount
Senior Research Associate	Prof Alastair Hay	£28,262.33
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Systematic Reviewer	Prof Julian Higgins	£22,563.56
Statistician	Prof Julian Higgins	£29,103.66
Information Specialist	Prof Julian Higgins	£23,230.28