

Paper 1: 2022-23 Research Capability Funding Spending against the Spending Plan

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Author: Paul Roy

Purpose

This paper shows the 2022/23 RCF Spending Plan and our actual spending. The aim is to identify and explain any variance between the Plan and the actual spend.

Section 1 shows the total spend by Category showing the planned spend (recommended by the Advisory Group) and the actual spend. This section identifies any variance and provides an explanation.

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

With the intention of highlighting any questionable or inappropriate use of funding, and providing advice where use could be improved, the Advisory Group members are asked to:

1. Consider the variance presented and the reasons provided in Section 1
2. Scrutinise the within-Category spend in Section 2

Please note: This is a redacted version for BNSSG ICB Website which removes the specific finance detail from Section 2.

Section 1

The Spending Plan and actual Spend by Category

| Category | Planned Budget | Actual Spend | Variance | Explanation of variance |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------|--|
| 1. Responsive Calls | £250,000 | £242,788.04 | £7,211.96 | Minimal N/A |
| 2. Career Development posts | £300,000 | £192,488.08 | £107,511.92 | Combined underspend with Category 3 as per University Partner requests. |
| 3. Departmental Development posts | £300,000 | £585,933.03 | -£285,933.03 | Pooling underspend from the other Categories we have been able to purposefully overspend on this Category. This has allowed us to provide more roles at the Universities and to increase job security for the employees in the longer-term HEI posts. This use of underspend was agreed by the CMO. |
| 4. Launching Fellowship | £88,000 | £87,199.34 | £800.66 | Minimal N/A |
| 5. Researcher in Residence | £60,000 | £35,638.41 | £24,361.59 | We allocated a budget of £30,000 for up to 6 short-term awards of £5,000. We received 1 funded application, but have several other applications that will be opportunities in 2023/24 due to timing constraints. |
| 6. Management Fellows | £54,000 | £41,608.97 | £12,391.03 | A long-planned advanced training offer for ICB staff was not feasible. |
| 7. Research support and Hosting | £345,000 | 256,334.37 | £88,665.63 | Reallocated underspend from previous RCF awards (see table 2) at the University of Bristol to cover the ICB's contribution to the Research Contracts Manager post. Band 7 Research Portfolio Officer and Band 5 Research Portfolio Support both started in September, saving £53,834.16 |

2022-23 RCF Spending against the Spending Plan

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|---|
| | | | | Plus minimal differences between actual cost and our (rounded) predictions. |
| 8. Bridging funding | £10,000 | £0.00 | £10,000.00 | No applications received. |
| 9. Maternity Sickness backfill | £10,000 | £12,924.77 | -£2,924.77 | One application was received and we have been able to use the unspent budget from Category 8 to meet the increase. |
| 10. Extensions to existing awards | £20,000 | £0.00 | £20,000.00 | No applications received. |
| 11. Senior Investigator Awards | £150,000 | £148,952.68 | £1,047.32 | Minimal N/A |
| 12. Bristol Health Partners Annual membership | £60,000 | £60,000.00 | £0.00 | N/A |
| 13. Contingency | £17,146 | £276.80 | £16,887.20 | In line with NIHR guidance, we have used contingency to underwrite Public and Patient Involvement payments for some of our grants prior to NIHR payment of our grant income. Also we have underwritten catering costs for the Impact Accelerator Unit (IAU) launch event on the 30 th March 2023. This will be reimbursed from our IAU income as soon as possible. |
| Total | £1,664,146 | £1,664,144.49 | £1.51 | The DH&SC paid us £1.51 less stated in our award |

Table 1: Entire RCF spending, segmented by Category.

Re-Allocation of previous RCF Awards underspend

We were informed of multiple previous RCF Awards with underspend at each University, and as per our agreed process we have reallocated these funds to other University posts:

| University | Post awarded | RCF Category |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| University of Bristol | BNSSG ICB Academic Career Support Award | 2. Career Development posts |
| University of Bristol | Joint ICB & University of Bristol Research Contracts Manager | 7. Research support and Hosting |
| University of Bristol | Extension to support Maternity Cover for Senior Research Associate | 9. Maternity/Sickness/backfill |
| UWE | Professor of Knowledge Mobilisation & MSK | 3. Departmental Development posts |

Table 2: RCF underspend reallocation showing relevant Spending Plan Category.

Section 2

Category 1: Responsive Calls

| Lead applicant | Topic | Organisation |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Ilhem Berrou | How do community-based health interventions, delivered by Caafi Health, mitigate the impact of digital exclusion on the health of people from minority ethnic groups? | UWE |
| Sarah Sullivan | Is it possible to implement an algorithm developed and validated in electronic health records on live medical records databases for early detection of psychosis? | University of Bristol |
| Sandi Dheensa | CANCER (personalised care and support planning, primary care cancer review, health and wellbeing information and support) and DOMESTIC ABUSE | University of Bristol |
| Lindsay Smith | The long-term follow up for patients with a hip or knee replacement in the Bristol region | UWE |
| Zoe Anchors | Ambulance staff & work-related stress | UWE |
| Melanie Smith | Can enhanced triage enable safe, timely and effective direct access to allied healthcare professionals and improve patient access to general practice services? | UWE |
| Ruth Kipping/Alice Porter | What is the clinical- and cost-effectiveness of using air filtration (HEPA +/- UV) in day care nurseries to reduce NHS contacts for respiratory (including COVID-19) and gastrointestinal infections in preschool children? | University of Bristol |
| Kieran McCartan | The evaluation of Operation Topaz for child sexual and criminal exploitation on the health and wellbeing of service users. | UWE |
| Sabi Redwood | How can health and care systems build a sustainable homecare workforce? | ARC West |
| Alexandra Creavin | Out of hours (OOH) primary care provision: challenges facing the GP out of hours system | University of Bristol |
| Richard Cheston | Community researcher to establish the research priorities of Chinese, Caribbean and South Asian communities living with dementia. | UWE |
| Jenny Scott | Explore a novel approach to reducing health inequalities in people who use drugs. Understanding the acceptability of, practicalities around, and barriers to the introduction of a community pharmacy based health check for people who use drugs (probably over 40 years of age). | University of Bristol |
| Ghislaine Swinburn | Nutritional Assessment of the Homeless Population | PCN |

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Joseph Webb and Lesley Le-Pine (ICB) | Improving continuity of care and health outcomes of people with Learning Disabilities living in assisted housing . Developing and enhancing work initiated by BNSSG ICB (Le-Pine). | University of Bristol |
| Harriet Fisher | Is it feasible to carry out a large scale study to test the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of expansion of the HPV vaccination programme to community pharmacies to improve uptake and address inequalities ? | University of Bristol |
| Nicky Harris | How can we identify and support children with life-limiting conditions with complex polypharmacy ? – the PolyPiLL project. | UWE |
| Tom May | How can public health alerts help mitigate health risks associated with adulterated or poor-quality heroin in BNSSG? | University of Bristol |
| Angeliki Papadaki | Conduct a rapid review of the grey literature, in order to document existing models of provision of the Meals on Wheels (MoWs) service in England | University of Bristol |
| Jennifer Phillips & Sasha Beresford (ICB) | How can we optimise the management of patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease ? | UHBW |

Table 3: Breakdown of Category 1 spend.

Other spends within this Category are shown below:

| Description of activity |
|---|
| PPI review on quarterly applications – paid at INVOLVE rates as per NIHR funding guidance |

Table 4: Breakdown of Category 1 spend on any/all items not included in RCF application forms received.

Category 2: Career Development Posts

| Post | Organisation |
|--|-----------------------|
| Senior Research Fellow in Emergency Care | UWE |
| Academic Career Development Award | UWE |
| Academic Career Development Award | University of Bristol |

Table 5: Breakdown of Category 2 spend.

Ratio of spend

We aim for a 75:25 ratio of spend in favour of University of Bristol in consideration of the relative contributions of RCF generating NIHR awards.

The ratio of spend within this Category was 68:32 in favour of UWE. However, University of Bristol requested that we reallocate a significant proportion of this budget into Category 3 instead. See below for the ratio of spend for the combined Categories 2 & 3.

Category 3: Departmental Development Posts

| Post | Organisation |
|--|-----------------------|
| Coordinator post for Research into urgent and Emergency Care Hub (REACH) | UWE |
| Senior Research Fellow in Realist Evaluation | UWE |
| Health Economist | UWE |
| Evidence Synthesis in CAPC | University of Bristol |
| PPI&E Advisor(s) in CAPC | University of Bristol |
| BTC Senior Research Project Manager | University of Bristol |
| Lecturer in Health Economics and Economic Evaluation | University of Bristol |
| Implementation Science post | University of Bristol |
| South West School Health Research Network | University of Bristol |
| CPH Research Manager | University of Bristol |
| BTC Finance Manager | University of Bristol |

Table 6: Breakdown of Category 3 spend.

Ratio of spend

We aim for a 75:25 ratio of spend in favour of University of Bristol in consideration of the relative contributions of RCF generating NIHR awards.

The ratio of spend in Category 3 was 73:27 in favour of University of Bristol over UWE. We have also been able to reallocate previous underspends (see table 2 above) to award an extra Career Development Post to both UWE and University of Bristol.

The ratio of total spend on the **combined Category 2 & 3 was 73:27** in favour of University of Bristol.

Category 4: Launching Fellowships

| Awardee | Area of expertise | Organisation |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Dr Anna Bibby | Reducing inequalities in cancer screening | University of Bristol |
| Dr Charlotte Archer | Managing Anxiety in primary care | University of Bristol |

Table 7: Breakdown of Category 4 spend.

Category 5: Researcher in Residence

| Role | Organisations |
|--|---|
| Embedded researcher within Population Health Management (PHM). Joint role with Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) | BNSSG ICB & University of Bristol |
| Evaluation of Woodspring Locality Partnership integration | BNSSG ICB & University of Bristol |

Table 8: Breakdown of Category 5 spend.

Category 6: Management Fellowship

| Role | Organisations |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| System Clinical Leadership Fellowship | BNSSG ICB |
| PhD partnerships and KM Training | BNSSG ICB & UWE |

Table 9: Breakdown of Category 6 spend.

Category 7: Research support and Hosting

| Post | Organisations |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Research Manager | BNSSG ICB |
| Senior Research Fellow | BNSSG ICB & UWE |
| Research Portfolio Manager | BNSSG ICB |
| Research Finance Support | BNSSG ICB |
| Research Portfolio Officer | BNSSG ICB |
| Research Portfolio Support | BNSSG ICB |
| Sponsorship | University of Bristol |

Table 10: Breakdown of Category 7 spend.

Category 8: Bristol Health Partners Annual membership

| Post | Organisations |
|-----------------------|--|
| Project Managers (3x) | Bristol Health Partners Academic Health Science Centre |

Table 11: Breakdown of Category 8 spend.

Category 9: Bridging Funding

No spend to report

Category 10: Maternity & Sickness cover

| Organisation | Amount |
|-----------------------|------------|
| University of Bristol | £12,924.77 |

Table 12: Breakdown of Category 10 spend.

Category 11: Extensions to Existing Awards

No spend to report

Category 12: Senior investigator Awards

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

| Post | Senior Investigator |
|---------------------------|--|
| Senior Research Associate | Prof Alastair Hay |
| Senior Research Associate | Prof Alastair Hay |
| Research Fellow | Prof Lucy Yardley, University of Bristol |

Table 13: Breakdown of Category 12 spend.