



WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS

# Annual Review Highlights

2023/24



Health  
Innovation  
Wessex

Hampshire  
and Isle of Wight

**NHS**  
Dorset

**NHS**

Dorset County Hospital  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

Dorset HealthCare  
University  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

University Hospitals Dorset  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

University Hospital  
Southampton  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

Hampshire Hospitals  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

Portsmouth Hospitals  
University  
NHS Trust

**NHS**

Southern Health  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**

Solent  
NHS Trust



University of  
Southampton



AECC  
University College  
*Transforming lives  
through Health Sciences*



Bournemouth  
University



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH



Wessex Health Partners is our region's Academic Health Science Partnership – a strategic alliance of NHS organisations, universities and Health Innovation Wessex.

We work in partnership to accelerate improvements in health and care through research, innovation and training



- NHS providers**
  - Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
  - Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust
  - Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
  - Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust
  - Solent NHS Trust
  - Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
  - University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust
  - University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust

- Integrated Care Boards**
  - Dorset
  - Hampshire and Isle of Wight

- Health Innovation Wessex**
- Academic partners**
  - AECC University College
  - Bournemouth University
  - University of Portsmouth
  - University of Southampton







“Together, we want to improve the health and wellbeing of our local population, helping people to live happy and healthy lives. Wessex is an exciting place to deliver research and develop innovations which have global impact.”

**PROFESSOR WILLIAM ROSENBERG**

CHAIR



WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS





“By harnessing our strengths and mobilising the region’s expertise, the Wessex Health Partners strategic alliance is helping to address local priorities, transform health and care services, and improve health outcomes for our population and wider society.”

**CHRISTINE MCGRATH**

MANAGING DIRECTOR



WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS



# Vision

A thriving regional partnership improving population health & patient outcomes with global impact

# Mission

Working in partnership, to accelerate better health and care through research, innovation and training

# Ambitions

To improve the region's collective ability to tackle the greatest challenges facing the Wessex health and care system

To generate greater collaborative and interdisciplinary research and speed the development and adoption of innovation at scale

## Strategic workstreams



Connecting R&I to the health and care challenges in Wessex



Collaborating to increase research



Systematic translation and adoption of innovation



Developing the workforce to discover, develop and deploy



Enhancing discoverability of information & data through our SDE



# Key Highlights 2023/24

- WHP collaboration agreement signed by all 15 partners, formalising the strategic alliance
- WHP governance structure established and core team appointed
- Embedding R&I culture within our ICBs
- Wessex-wide collaborative funding success
- Wessex R&I infrastructure developed





# Measuring Our Success – WHP in numbers




### Collaborative funding applications

36 supported

10 Successful

>£22M Combined Value



### WHP / WEMN pilot seed-funding

21 Applications

15 Successful Applications

Total funding awarded **£220k**

All funding partners cited as collaborators



### Communities of Interest

Clean Air South  
Women's Health  
Mental Health

Involving total of **300+** researchers



### Return on Investment

**1:15**



### Communications

4,904 page views since launching WHP's website in December 2023. Since soft launching social media accounts in May 2023:

277 X posts resulting in 40.5k impressions. 205 LinkedIn followers, 10.3k impressions & almost 600 page views.



### Promoting WHP

**19** Presentations at regional and national conferences



### Events bring academics and health and care system together

Genomics  
Women's health  
Air Quality  
ICS / Population Health and research  
With **270** attendees



Our partners say they value the way we are all working together to

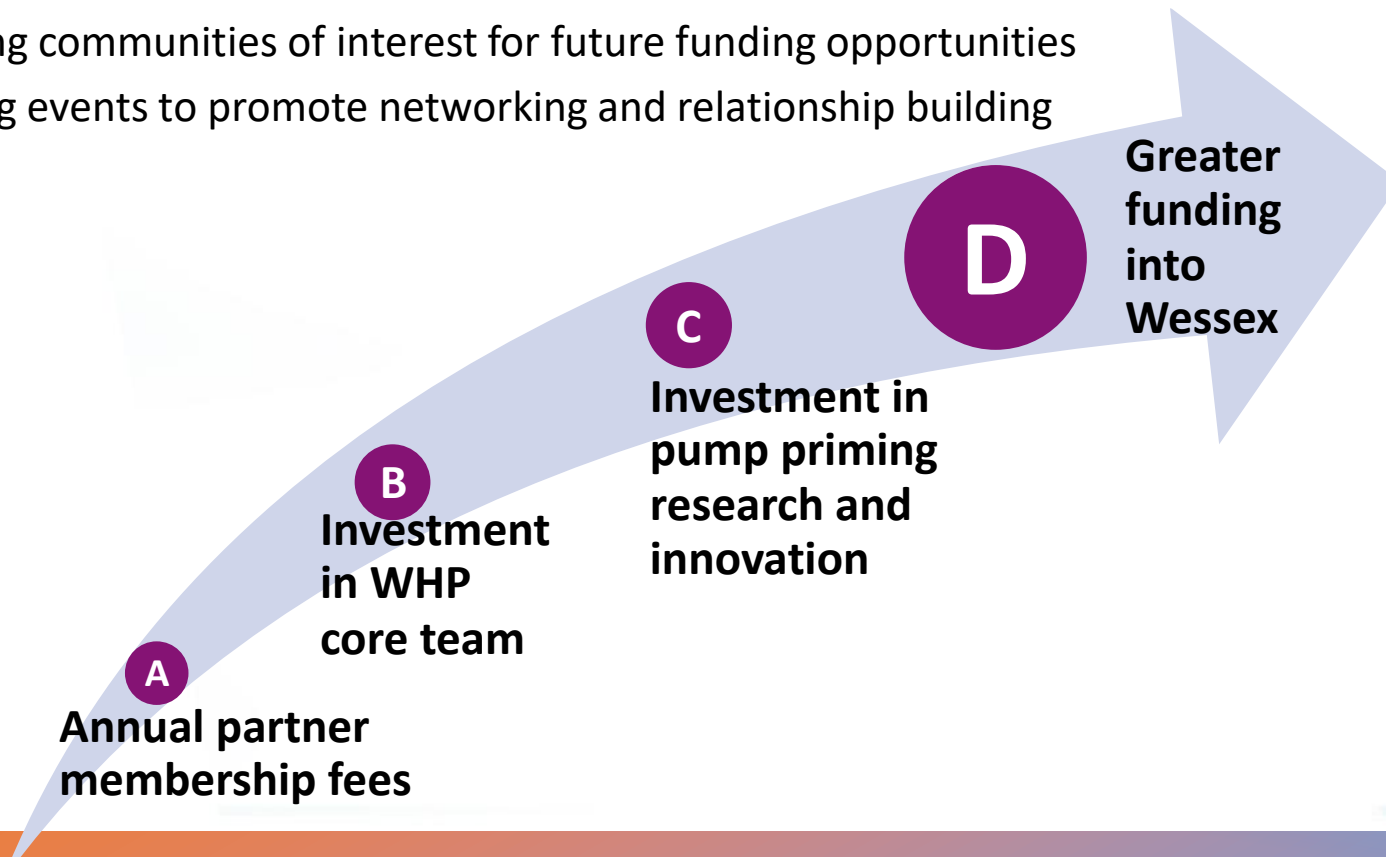
- Submit collaborative bids
- Develop our Wessex-wide research and innovation culture
- Embed research into health and care systems
- Bring together researchers with health and care leaders
- Develop a single Wessex voice
- Improve infrastructure within the region
- Facilitate new ways of joint working





Partners are benefitting from a return on investment of 1:15 in successful collaborative funding applications supported by the WHP strategic alliance  
We plan to ensure this rate stays high by

- Cascading funding opportunities
- Co-ordinating bid collaboration
- Forming communities of interest for future funding opportunities
- Hosting events to promote networking and relationship building





Connecting R&I  
to the health and  
care challenges  
in Wessex



This year working together we

- Established the WHP/Integrated Care Board (ICB) workstreams to enable ICBs to meet their statutory obligation to maximise the benefits of research
- Worked closely with NHS Dorset to develop its first ever research strategy
- Worked with HIOW ICB to develop a research and innovation ‘maturity matrix’
- Helped prioritise research and innovation in ICB strategic plans
- Worked together to understand regional health and care challenges, linking researchers with policymakers
- Hosted a major event to bring together everyone interested in population health needs
- Worked with partners to identify pan-Wessex funding opportunities



Collaborating to  
increase  
research

This year working together we

- Set up seed-funding to support researchers and innovators in forming new collaborations with a view to making joint applications for further funding
- Combined this funding call with Wessex Experimental Medicine Network (WEMN)
- Received 21 applications, awarding funding to 15 projects
- Supported 36 funding applications involving our partners – so far 10 have been successful bringing in total funding of more than £22m
- Brought people together with research interests in specific topic areas, with a view to helping them develop collaborative bids
- Nurtured Communities of Interest (COIs) in three areas: Mental Health, Women’s Health Hubs, Air Quality
- Convened a Horizon Scanning Group to identify funding opportunities for pan-Wessex collaborations

**WESSEX  
EXPERIMENTAL  
MEDICINE  
NETWORK**

Collaborate      Develop      Deliver

**WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS**

*Improving health and quality-of-life by enhancing resilience to disease, injury and the consequences of ageing across the life-course through world-class discovery and translation, through partnership across Wessex.*





Collaborating to  
increase  
research



This year working together we

- Supported the successful NIHR Health Determinant Research Collaborative bids for Southampton and Portsmouth
- Regularly passed on requests for specific research expertise, and shared contacts to encourage cross-organisation working
- Started to develop an interactive map to signpost the life sciences across Wessex
- Began to engage with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) to attract major life sciences investment into the region
- Worked with NIHR Southampton BRC to establish the Wessex Experimental Medicine Network
- Began to transfer oversight and governance of Wessex Research Hubs and Buses
- Supported the inaugural Wessex Expo Event



Systematic translation and adoption of innovation



This year working together we

- Developed the foundations needed to increase partnership working across the Discover, Deploy, Develop model
- Supported funding applications which will lead to innovation
- Founded Wessex Secure Data Environment (SDE) which will expand Real Work Evaluation studies across partners
- Played an active part in the NHS Innovation Ecosystem Review Programme (Sinker Review)

**Discover**

Create the value proposition

**Develop**

Prove the value proposition

**Deploy**

Adopt at scale



Developing the  
workforce to  
discover, develop  
and deploy



This year working together we

- Supported Wessex-wide training workshops including two Health Innovation Wessex ‘Understanding Intellectual Property to Create Health Impact’ events
- Undertook a strategic review of Wessex REACH – an NIHR funded incubator project set up to support and develop researchers across Wessex. We made recommendations on how to build on this work, aimed at further developing the Wessex workforce
- Supported a strategic review of Wessex Public Involvement Network (Wessex PIN)





Enhancing  
discoverability of  
information &  
data through our  
SDE

This year working together we

- Secured NHSE funding for the next phase of the Wessex Secure Data Environment (Wessex SDE)
- Helped SDE identify regional data assets and map priority data sets. The proof-of-concept build has been successfully completed, and a pilot run between UHS and UoS. Exemplar research projects have been identified
- A key element of the SDE programme is a stakeholder and public engagement programme
- The Wessex SDE programme is working closely with the SDE national programme and is part of a Southern SDE Consortium to develop common approaches and processes



**Wessex**  
SECURE DATA  
ENVIRONMENT

Part of the  
**NHS Research Secure Data  
Environment Network**



WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS

## Contact us

-  [wessexhp.org.uk](http://wessexhp.org.uk)
-  [enquiries@wessexhp.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wessexhp.org.uk)
-  [@wessexhp](https://twitter.com/wessexhp)
-  [Wessex Health Partners](https://www.linkedin.com/company/wessex-health-partners)
-  [bit.ly/WHP-newsletter](http://bit.ly/WHP-newsletter)



# Thank you for watching



WESSEX HEALTH PARTNERS

## To find out more about our work you can

Visit [wessexhealthpartners.org.uk](https://wessexhealthpartners.org.uk)

Email [enquiries@wessexhp.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wessexhp.org.uk)

Call 023 8202 0840

Wessex Health Partners  
Innovation Centre  
Science Park  
2 Venture Road  
Chilworth  
Southampton  
SO16 7NP

Sign up to our newsletter

