

Job Description

Post: Chief Academic Officer

Department: Health Innovation Manchester

Grade: VSM – competitive salary

Hours: Indicative FTE 0.5, to be agreed

Responsible to: HInM Chief Executive and Executive Director of MAHSC

Liases with: HInM Board, Executive Management Team, Chief Executives, Senior Leaders, Clinical and Academic leaders, Senior Commissioners, Strategic Partners

Responsible for: Manchester Academic Health Science Centre, research and education function, NIHR ARC GM liaison

Work base: Hybrid working, between home and Health Innovation Manchester, Third Floor, Citylabs, Nelson Street, Manchester, M13 9NQ

Job Purpose:

Greater Manchester is a diverse health and care system, with a £6bn budget to deliver care and treatment to 2.8m citizens. Building on the last six years of devolution, GM is an advanced integrated care system (ICS) comprising of 10 localities, 11 NHS providers and 450 GP practices.

Greater Manchester is regarded as one of the most active, diverse and growing health innovation ecosystems in the UK owing to its concentration of advanced health and care, academic, life sciences and digital sectors. We have been able to make huge advances in these areas over the last few years by forming strategic partnerships across the city region, to deliver demonstrable benefits to local services, our citizens and their communities.

Health Innovation Manchester (HInM) is an integrated health, science and innovation system which works to accelerate innovation to improve outcomes for our citizens by working in close collaboration with health and care, industry and academia.

HInM's vision is to become a recognised international leader in accelerating innovation that transforms the health and wellbeing of our citizens. We work with researchers and innovators to discover, develop and deploy new solutions, harnessing the transformative power of health and care, industry and academia working together to address major challenges and tackle health and care inequalities.

HInM brings together the [Manchester Academic Health Science Centre](#) (MAHSC), Greater Manchester Academic Health Science Network (GM AHSN) and the [NIHR Applied Research Collaboration \(ARC\) Greater Manchester](#).

The Chief Academic Officer will be a joint role between HInM and The University of Manchester, working as part of the HInM executive management team (EMT), and is responsible for overall HInM research and education strategy, including the delivery of MAHSC, academic partnerships (with all four GM universities), alongside the NIHR ARC GM.

They will ensure the region's portfolio of translational research, major research assets (expertise and infrastructure), and research support systems align with the health and social care priorities of Greater Manchester (GM). Working with system partners, they will have oversight from early discovery research, experimental medicine, clinical trials, through to robust evaluation and implementation. They will work with these partners to build capability and capacity in our workforce to ensure that research evidence, practical knowledge of how digital and information systems can enhance models of care, and scientific rigour, are at the heart of health and social care decision making for the population of GM.

The Chief Academic Officer will work with executives within NHS Greater Manchester (the Integrated Care System) senior leadership team to ensure that research and innovation (R&I) are core components of health and social care strategy developed for the GM population.

The successful candidate will combine their role as a senior academic or clinician (including NMAHPs) in one of the GM partners (Indicative 0.5 FTE, to be agreed). As HInM continues to evolve and position itself for future sustainability, the Chief Academic Officer must be comfortable working in a rapidly changing environment.

This post requires an experienced individual, with strong influencing and negotiating skills, able to work across organisational boundaries to lead and deliver in a dynamic environment. The post holder will have strong leadership skills, experience of multi-agency delivery partnerships, an ability to think strategically, as well as being able to problem solve. Style flexibility, emotional intelligence, learning agility and excellent communication skills are essential and the postholder will need to demonstrate credibility with key senior internal and external partners.

Use of political judgement and astuteness in understanding and working with complex policy, and diverse interest groups is a key aspect of the role.

Main duties & responsibilities:

MAHSC

In April 2020, MAHSC, part of HInM, was officially re-designated by NIHR, [NHS England and NHS Improvement](#) up to 2025. It is one of eight academic health science centres in England, and the only one in the North West, designated to research new treatments, improve health education and transform patient care. Its goal is to make new scientific discoveries and shorten the time to turn them into effective treatments to deliver benefits for patients locally and around the world.

The MAHSC discovery and translation strategy is delivered by six domains, each led jointly by an academic and an NHS clinician and chaired by a CEO from a partner Trust. The domains are: Cancer, Cardiovascular & Diabetes, Inflammation & Repair, Mental Health, Neuroscience, and Women & Children, with cross-cutting expertise in applied, digital, and precision health.

Academic Partnerships

HInM partners with the Universities across GM (The University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Bolton, and University of Salford) in order to add value to our existing programmes of innovation / service improvement, MAHSC, and to provide a constant pipeline of innovation to the discovery-translational pathway.

Led by the Director of Academic Partnerships, this team identifies research collaboration opportunities that strengthen applications for research funding by creating a critical mass of multidisciplinary expertise. The team also synergise expertise, assets and infrastructure in building capability and capacity to create 'life long learning' opportunities for our health and social care professionals that lead to 'life long health' for our population through the development of joint educational programmes for health and care students and workforce in the field. This enables Greater Manchester to become a leading location to train our health and social care workforce and become a magnet for attracting talent from across the globe.

NIHR ARC-GM

The NIHR has invested £135m to establish of 15 ARCs across England to develop innovative research projects that will directly improve patient care and treatment.

The ARC delivers excellent research that addresses key challenges, while supporting professionals to translate this into practice. NIHR ARC-GM works with system partners to translate their priorities into answerable research questions, ensuring that research is relevant, useful and applicable to local service needs and affects policy and practice within GM and beyond.

As part of HInM, the NIHR ARC GM's research activity is pivotal in finding new and better ways of preventing illness and delivering care, ensuring that GM continues to be at the leading edge of health innovation, care and treatment.

: The University of Manchester

- Report to the Chief Executive Officer and be a member of the HInM Executive Management Team, representing the Research and Education function and the NIHR ARC.
- Develop, manage and promote a clear research and education strategy for HInM and provide regular progress and performance reports (including risk and issue management) to the HInM EMT and Board.
- Working with the HInM Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of MAHSC, take overall responsibility for delivery of MAHSC (including Chairing the MAHSC Executive), with an expectation of successful re-designation in 2025 (if a competition is launched).
- Working closely with the HInM Clinical Director, MAHSC Clinical Lead, and Director of Academic Partnerships and interim Programme Director Academia, oversee relevant NHS and University liaison activity.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion in all activities and interactions in accordance with the policies of the NHS and other partners.
- Lead the HInM Research and Education team and be responsible for its business planning with other HInM business units and the corporate office.
- Work with colleagues to ensure coherent and complementary research strategies are developed in the MAHSC Domains and partners.
- Responsible for the good governance and financial management of activities within the Research and Education team, including MAHSC Domains.
- Ensure close working relationships between major NIHR funded infrastructure (BRC, CRF, ARC, PSRC etc) and Universities across GM (The University of Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Bolton, and University of Salford
- Working with these partners, ensure a constant flow of innovations into the HInM pipeline via MAHSC, with emphasis on alignment to the health and care needs of the Greater Manchester population, as defined by the NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care (the ICS).
- Make substantial contributions in the planning, preparation, and submission of strategic bids, grants, and initiatives, particularly NIHR infrastructure renewals.
- Meet regularly with MAHSC Domain Academic and Clinical Leads to exchange information and evaluate progress, extending three times per year to wider meetings with partner Trust Chief Executives and Medical Directors.
- Ensure effective cross dialogue and appropriate knowledge transfer between HInM and the ICS.
- Developing and maintaining effective relationships with key external stakeholders, particularly those relating to the NHS and Universities (e.g. Northern Health Science Alliance, UK Biobank, Medicines Discovery Catapult, Professional Bodies, and funding bodies).
- Representing HInM nationally and internationally, including with the national group of AHSC Directors.

- Be accountable for the oversight and roll-out of the “Greater Manchester Research Hub” with standardisation / harmonisation of R&D processes and clinical trial / real-world evaluation development.
- Chair the MAHSC executive group, HInM Academic Partnerships Forum and R&I Directors Group.
- Continue to be nationally and internationally prominent through research, scholarship, and professional activity
- Chairing other committees and groups as agreed with the Chief Executive Officer or Executive Director of MAHSC.
- Understand the influence of their portfolio of activity on carbon emissions and wider environmental impacts.
- Responsible, in collaboration with colleagues, for developing plans to reduce carbon emissions and to identify and address barriers to further this reduction. Lead on embedding more sustainable practice and empowering action within sphere of influence and control.

The job description and person specification are an outline of the tasks, responsibilities and outcomes required of the role. The job holder will carry out any other duties as may reasonably be required by their line manager.

The job description and person specification may be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the changing needs of the Directorate and or the organisation.

Infection Control

It is a requirement for all staff to comply with all infection control policies and procedures as set out in the Trust’s Infection Control manual. The post holder is also responsible for ensuring all their staff attends mandatory training, including infection control and to provide support to the Director of Infection Control.

Health and Safety

The Trust has a statutory responsibility to provide and maintain a healthy and safe environment for its staff to work in. You equally have a responsibility to ensure that you do nothing to jeopardise the health and safety to either yourself or of anybody else. The Trust’s Health and Safety Policies outline your responsibilities regarding Health & Safety at Work.

The post holder must not willingly endanger him/herself or others whilst at work. Safe working practices and safety precautions must be adhered to. Protective clothing and equipment must be used where appropriate.

All accidents/incidents must be reported to your Senior Manager and documented as per Trust Policy, including the reporting of potential hazards.

Safeguarding

Ensure that the policy and legislation relating to child protection and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults are adhered to. It is the responsibility of all staff to report any concerns to the identified person within your department/division or area of responsibility.

Security

The post holder has a responsibility to ensure the preservation of NHS property and resources.

Confidentiality

The post holder is required to maintain confidentiality at all times in all aspects of their work.

Team Briefing

The Trust operates a system of team briefing, which is based on the principles that people will be more committed to their work if they fully understand the reason behind what is happening in their organisation and how it is performing.

No Smoking Policy

The Trust operates a no smoking control policy, which applies to all staff, patients and visitors and extends to the hospital grounds as well as internal areas.

The Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer

This job description indicates the main functions of the post holder and may be subject to regular review and amendment in the light of service development. Any review will be undertaken in conjunction with the post holder and in line with Trust policy.

Organisational Chart

