

NHS Board meeting
28 October 2020

Lanarkshire NHS Board
Kirklands
Bothwell
G71 8BB
Telephone: 01698 855500
www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk



**SUBJECT: Update on the Joint Strategic Partnership between
NHS Lanarkshire and Strathclyde University**

1. PURPOSE

To ask the NHS Lanarkshire Board to approve the decision of Strathclyde University to award University status to NHS Lanarkshire.

To approve	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	To endorse	<input type="checkbox"/>	To note	<input type="checkbox"/>
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2. ROUTE TO THE BOARD

This report comes to the Board direct following confirmation from Strathclyde University that they wish to confer University Status on NHS Lanarkshire. This is the first time that Strathclyde University has granted University status on a Health Board.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

Collaboration with NHS Lanarkshire has grown strongly since a Strategic Partnership Agreement was signed in September 2019, partly accelerated as a result of the Covid pandemic and the successful and impactful projects we have led.

The collaboration is managed by a Strategic Partnership Board, which has met twice already and which includes senior leadership from both institutions as well as clinical, management and academic leads for the collaborative projects.

Board Members will recall that in June 2020 the interim CEO of NHS Lanarkshire was asked to request that University Status be agreed with the University and this has been granted by the Court of the University.

University Status is a formal recognition by both parties of the strength and significance of the relationship between them.

NHS Lanarkshire currently has University Status with both Glasgow Caledonian University and the University of the West of Scotland, based primarily around teaching and research relationships and on partnering in e.g. nursing and midwifery between departments of the university and clinical departments of the Health Board.

University Status with Strathclyde will encompass similar service/vocational collaborations (e.g. in pharmacy, and speech and language therapy), but goes further in forming a deeper strategic research relationship related to key research capabilities of the university. While in principle some of these activities could be carried out under the auspices of the Strategic Partnership, the agreement of University Status is a mutual recognition between both parties of the breadth and depth of collaboration, and is an important signal to external parties (Scottish Government and NHS, Research Councils, Medical Charities etc.) of that mutual commitment.

Potential Advantages of University Status

Both parties recognise mutual advantages of which the following are examples which have been agreed at the Strategic Partnership Board.

To the Health Board:

- Indication of ambition to do leading research and apply new developments in health and care
- Increased reputation with peers and communities as a centre of excellence
- Better trained workforce
- Opportunities for staff to develop clinical academic careers
- Increased attraction when recruiting and retaining staff of all professions and roles.
- Direct and strategic influence of academics through collaborative ventures

To the University:

- Funding of joint posts
- Funding of NHS staff to do PhD studies (version of the University's Doctorate@Work scheme similar to the GSK doctoral centre)
- Placements and internships for Strathclyde MSc and undergraduate students
- Access to clinical/health care environments for the University's PhD students
- Possibility of hospital based footprint for some of the University's Departments/Institutes (SIPBS is specifically mentioned)
- Access to funding routes for collaborative projects and better chances of success e.g. with MRC and CSO
- Attract clinical academics to Strathclyde as part of the University's plans to add clinically experienced staff through the Health and Care Futures initiative.
- Increased reputation with NHS, Scottish Government, and internationally in the domains of Health and Care etc.
- Attraction of Strathclyde to international students wishing to study courses featuring clinical/health care subjects and experience
- Contributions to teaching courses by NHS staff

The University logo and name will be added to signage of the NHS Lanarkshire University Hospitals and other estate as appropriate, and communications teams from both sides will agree a comms plan to highlight the new relationship.

Additional (Desirable):

- Service:
 - University academic staff (employed and/or visiting) working in NHSL providing clinical/non-clinical input to improving care.
 - Appropriate NHSL staff involved in influencing university practice (i.e. Programme Boards, curriculum development groups, University Quality assurance panels).
- Education:
 - Provide postgraduate student placements and actively seek to host PhD students.
 - Work collaboratively in the development and delivery of under- and post-graduate programmes of education.
- Research and Innovation:
 - Staff within the service have a track record of success in attracting research grant funding in competitive funding-calls.
 - Evidence of pre-existing collaboration with the University in conducting NHS Ethics-approved or other research studies.
 - Collaboration with the University in research studies that have published results in peer-reviewed journals or that have been translated into clinical practice or that have influenced health policy or guidance.

NHS Lanarkshire hospitals will now be branded e.g. University Hospital Monklands/Wishaw/Hairmyres.

When University Health Board status has been formally established, by approving this paper, it is anticipated that with the University's agreement, the Strathclyde University logo would be placed prominently on main hospital signage (along with those of other partners), to celebrate and promote the partnership. Appropriate staff in Communications at Strathclyde and NHS Lanarkshire will work together to publicise the University Status relationship.

Thereafter, as relevant NHSL department(s) is/are able to fulfil the agreed criteria for what an annex of a University Department would look like, the University would then additionally rebadge and jointly promote all such relevant departments and projects.

4. STRATEGIC CONTEXT

This paper links to the following:

Corporate Objectives	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government Directive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Statutory Requirement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Urgent Operational Issue	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

5. CONTRIBUTION TO QUALITY

This paper aligns to the following elements of safety and quality improvement:

Three Quality Ambitions:

Safe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Person Centred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Six Quality Outcomes:

Everyone has the best start in life and is able to live longer healthier lives; (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
People are able to live well at home or in the community; (Person-Centred)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Everyone has a positive experience of healthcare; (Person-Centred)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff feel supported and engaged; (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Healthcare is safe for every person, every time; (Safe)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Best use is made of available resources. (Effective)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. MEASURES FOR IMPROVEMENT

These will be managed through the Strategic Partnership Board.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

8. RISK ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

These will be mitigated through the Strategic Partnership Board, and a Risk Register has already been drawn up by the University.

9. FIT WITH BEST VALUE CRITERIA

This paper aligns to the following best value criteria:

Vision and leadership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Effective partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Governance and accountability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Use of resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Performance management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equality	
Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

10. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT / FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

Yes *Please say where a copy can be obtained* No

An Equality and Diversity / FSD Impact Assessment is not required for this report.

11. CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

12. ACTIONS FOR THE BOARD

The NHS Board is asked to:

Approve	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Endorse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Note	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1. Approve the decision of Strathclyde University to offer to award University status to NHS Lanarkshire.

13. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further, more detailed, information, or clarification of any issues in this paper, please contact:

Professor Eamonn Brankin
Clinical Director, Primary Care

Heather Knox
Chief Executive, NHS Lanarkshire

Gabe Docherty
Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire