**Expression of Interest: Chair of the HSC Honest Broker Governance Board**

**The Honest Broker Service**

The Honest Broker Service is the Trusted Research Environment (TRE)/ Secure Data Environment (SDE) for Health and Social Care NI (HCNI). It provides an important avenue for access to health and social care data whilst also ensuring the duties of confidentiality in relation to patient data are maintained.

The Honest Broker Service provides two key services:

* anonymised patient level data for the purpose of research, with access via a secure data environment
* anonymised or pseudonymised patient level data to internal HSC customers and the Department of Health to support clinical audit and service evaluations.

More information about the Honest Broker Service can be found here: <https://hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2454.htm>

The Honest Broker Service are seeking expressions of interest for a new Chair for the Honest Broker Governance Board (HBGB). The following provides details of the post and how to apply.

**The Role**

The Chair of the Honest Broker Governance Board has a unique opportunity to shape and influence the health research landscape within Northern Ireland and the UK. Through the use of HSC data to develop and improve HSC services, the Chair can make a real difference to the lives of patients, carers and the public in Northern Ireland. Projects supported by the HBS include the National Core Studies[[1]](#footnote-1) Data and Connectivity programme[[2]](#footnote-2), plus local and national research into COVID-19, such as the Panoramic Study[[3]](#footnote-3) which aims to develop new treatments reducing the need for hospital admission and help people to get better sooner.

**Time commitment**

The primary focus of this position will be chairing quarterly HBGB meetings and working alongside colleagues in the HBGB to review applications from research teams across the UK. At present, there are 3 applications reviewed by subcommittee per quarter, although it is hoped that the service will grow and HBS data will be more widely used to support research in the HSC sector.

The Chair also plays an important role in conjunction with the HBGB and the Honest Broker Working Group by:

* promoting and championing the Honest Broker Service, both within Northern Ireland and the UK
* providing a strategic role in implementing the Data Strategy for HSC Northern Ireland 2022-2030, and related legislation with regards to the HBS
* influencing policy and future legislative change in relation to digital presentation and management of HSC data
* supporting future service planning, performance management and service improvement in collaboration with other stakeholders
* helping to identify opportunities to allow the HBS to grow and contribute to new funding bids
* supporting the clarification and streamlining of current structures for governance of HSC data.

**Qualities required for the role**

To help you decide if you should apply for appointment for the role of HBGB Chair, we have listed below the criteria that will be applied when assessing candidates. To be considered, you must be able to demonstrate that you have the qualities, skills and experience to meet the criteria.

**Essential criteria**

You must:

* be employed by Health and Social Care Northern Ireland (HSCNI) providing strategic direction
* have a clear understanding of research priorities and information governance within the HSC.

**Desirable criteria**

You might:

* have experience of data knowledge and data management
* have experience of chairing multi-disciplinary, high level strategic groups
* have a professional healthcare or clinical background
* be research active
* have previous experience of attracting funding.

**Please return completed Expression of Interest forms by Friday 2nd December 2022 to** info.orecni@hscni.net

Please contact Alan Harbinson (hbs@hscni.net), or Karen Beattie or Fiona McNally (info.orecni@hscni.net) for further information.

1. At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, experts and key UK funders of research and development identified a number of areas where the UK needed to increase its research scale or infrastructure to respond to key near-term strategic, policy and operational questions regarding COVID-19. As a result, the National Core Studies (NCS) programme was established in 2020. For further information, please see [National Core Studies programme - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-core-studies-programme) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Data and Connectivity Programme aims to map and link data required for priority COVID-19 research, and to make data easier to securely access and analyse for researchers undertaking urgent COVID-19 research by improving the network of national [Trusted Research Environments](https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/access-to-health-data/trusted-research-environments/) – the infrastructure that provides researchers with secure access to health data. For further information, see <https://www.hdruk.ac.uk/covid-19-data-and-connectivity/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. More information on the Panoramic Study can be found here: <https://www.panoramictrial.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)