



DORSET
Local Enterprise Partnership

Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership

Getting Building Fund (GBF)

End of Project Report

Dorset Clinical Trials Unit

PROJECT SUMMARY

Dorset LEP's award from the Getting Building Fund to University Hospitals Dorset NHS Foundation Trust (UHD NHS FT) was fundamental in enabling the development of a much-needed dedicated research facility for staff to develop vital research evidence and to provide Dorset residents with the opportunity to take part in high calibre research studies. The Dorset Clinical Trials Unit (DCTU) is already allowing UHD NHS FT researchers to develop innovative health and social care treatments which will help inform new health and care initiatives both in Dorset, more widely across the Wessex region and nationally.

The funding award from Dorset LEP has been used primarily for estates work and equipment at the Royal Bournemouth Hospital in the first year of investment. The state-of-the-art clinical space, which is now open to the public, has been designed to be able to support both clinical drug trials and interventional studies. This is not only within UHD NHS FT but also for other county NHS service providers such as those within primary care, social care and digital health services. In addition to this, DCTU have initiated preliminary discussions with industry partners who are keen to collaborate and make use of the facilities.

DCTU now has the research facilities and environment to accelerate plans for additional development of the required infrastructure needed to gain UK Clinical Research Collaboration (UKCRC) accreditation. As the infrastructure is developed, DCTU can apply for vital external research funding. This in turn will offer prospective increases in the local research workforce, thus creating new job opportunities to support new research studies and key opportunities for career development including upskilling of existing staff. UHD NHS FT have been able to safeguard roles to work within DCTU following the investment and have a clear plan of staff growth which will enable the development of DCTU and make best advantage of the capital funding provided by Dorset LEP.

Development of DCTU helps to support the Dorset LEP's aims to support Dorset becoming one of Britain's Core City-Regions. Key examples of how DCTU has contributed into the Dorset LEP wider programme following funding have been detailed below: -

1. Attracting new businesses and grow existing ones

Collaborations with UHD NHS FT as a direct result of the development of DCTU have increased from zero to four with additional discussions with other collaborations underway. To date, working with these industry partners has made a huge impact on vaccine delivery research in the Dorset region meaning Dorset residents have benefitted and contributed to new research developments. Over 5,000 research visits have taken place for research studies delivered in the new research space.

2. Securing funding for projects that have long-term economic benefits

Staff within Dorset CTU are pursuing the development of two UHD NHS FT sponsored projects as a direct result of the investment from Dorset LEP. These projects pertain to applying for external NIHR (National Institute of Health and Care Research) and to obtaining direct funding from a commercial company (Norgine). Both funding applications, should they be successful, will mean that UHD NHS FT will be able to fulfil future outcomes within the Dorset LEP funding agreement. Further to this, another additional two projects are also in the early discussion stages in collaboration with Bournemouth University and DCTU continue to review Expressions of Interest for other projects.

As part of Dorset CTU, the Dorset Clinical Research Centre has been able to collaborate with new industry partners (e.g. Moderna) in order to foster relationships for future research projects.

3. Developing skills, employment and career opportunities

As a direct result of investment for DCTU, staff have been provided training and development to use the new state of the art equipment such as using a Class II Biomedical Safety Cabinet and vein finder.

Existing staff have had the opportunity to be promoted and seconded within the Research & Development team to work on trials directly managed within the Dorset CTU research centre. Staff on fixed term contracts have also been able to be retained to continue work within DCTU.

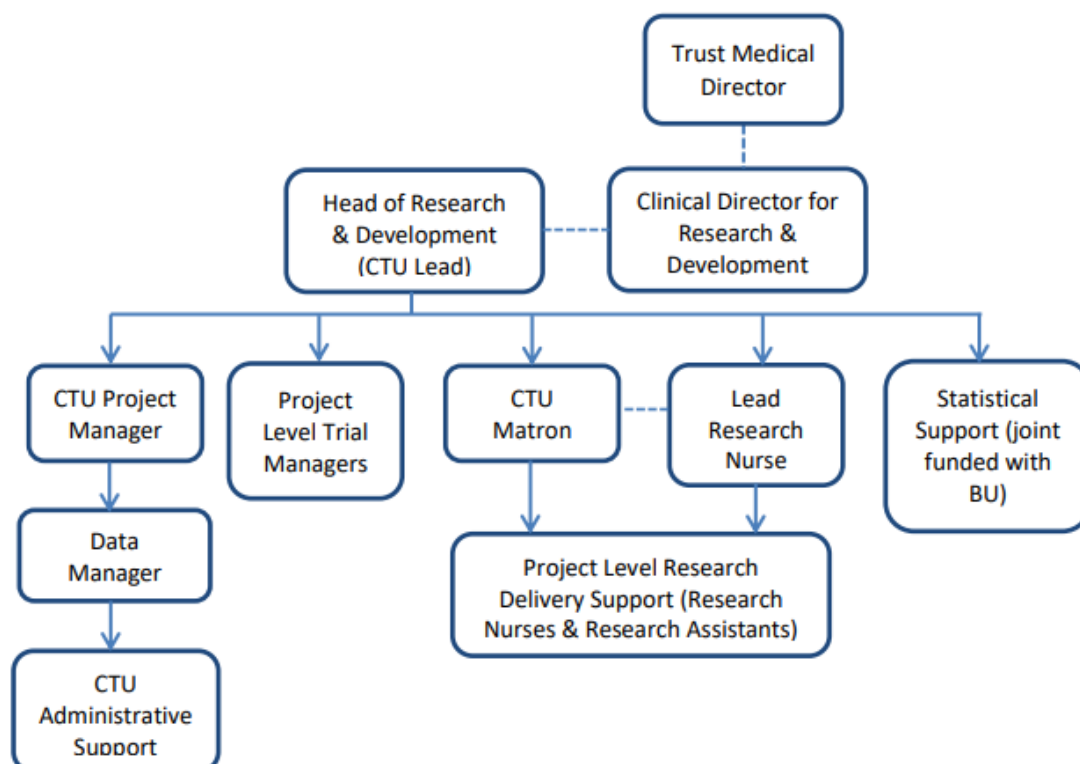
Development of additional training for existing and future employees is underway to provide the opportunity for current staff development thus ensuring a stable workforce with defined career pathways in the Dorset region.

4. Creating new jobs

DCTU has recruited 1.8 FTE for new roles and a further 3 FTE within the recruitment process pending start dates, that have been created to work within the Dorset CTU project. In addition to this, a joint post with Bournemouth University has been advertised for a statistician and Dorset CTU has been paramount in strengthening the ongoing commitment for resource sharing with Bournemouth University.

Once DCTU have secured external research funding, Dorset CTU will include costings for new staff to work on the research projects and as detailed previously, two applications for funding are currently in progress which will enable DCTU to recruit additional staff within the grant.

UHD NHS FT have developed a defined breakdown of staff who will be required to establish UKCRC accreditation in the next 3-5 years detailed below: -



UHD NHS FT had three clear objectives for the initial stages of work for the development of DCTU. These objectives were all achieved within the required timelines and further information can be found in the table below. A breakdown of purchased equipment and renovation work can be found in the Outputs section (Appendix A).

Objectives	Measurables	Achieved
Purchase required IT infrastructure (CRF Manager and SPSS)	Measured by the IT infrastructure installation, fully operational and staff trained in its use.	<p>SPSS purchased.</p> <p>SPSS Laptop purchased and SPSS installed.</p> <p>Staff trained in use.</p> <p>Due to Information Governance issues, CRF manager was unable to be purchased as was not approved by the Trust but an alternative room booking and asset management systems have been developed.</p>
Create the new Dorset Clinical Trials Unit (Dorset CTU)	Measured by the development of appropriate infrastructure, management, and governance processes which are in line the UHD NHS Trust processes.	<p>New CTU Lead Research Nurse/Matron in post.</p> <p>New CTU Project Manager in post.</p> <p>Application for statistician out of advert.</p> <p>IT infrastructure has been achieved as detailed above.</p> <p>Standard Operating Procedures have been written and continue to be developed to support core governance processes within research.</p> <p>CTU Steering Group members identified and finalised. Oversight continues from Trust R&D Senior Management Group.</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding in place for relationship of DCTU with UHD NHS FT to meet regulatory requirements.</p>
Fit out space for Dorset CTU	Measured by the completion of renovated 150m ² of state-of-the-art facilities.	All estates work completed to time and target.

Project start date	9 th March 2021
Project construction start date	November 2021
Project completion date	31 st March 2022

CHANGE REQUEST

UHD NHS FT has not requested any change requests during this period. However, clarification was provided to confirm to Dorset LEP that due to submission periods for UK Clinical Research Collaboration Registered Clinical Trials Unit Network (UKCRC) applications, this would be achieved by March 2025 and not December 2022 as detailed in the initial project plan.

OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES:

Outputs

In order to evidence how the Dorset CTU has accomplished the Dorset LEPs Getting Building Fund output requirements, the appendices below demonstrate how LEP capital funding has been utilised to directly ensure the planned outputs are realised per the original full business case application. To recap, these were as follows: -

1. A new Dorset Clinical Trials Unit (Dorset CTU), fully operational to the highest standards, with the purchase of facility IT infrastructure to support every kind of trial including testing of drugs, medical devices and large, complex interventional and observational studies.
2. Dedicated space for the public to participate in trials to enable fast delivery of projects and dedicated meeting space for prospective clients. The site at Royal Bournemouth Hospital will provide 150m² of new dedicated space.

Appendix A – Breakdown of project purchases and impact for project

Purchase	Impact	Output Status
Clinical Equipment inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECG Machine • Scales • Stadiometer • Blood trays • Drip stands • Dynamap & Pulse Oximeter • Sphygmomanometer • Clinical trolleys • Controlled Substances cupboard • Spirometer • Vein finder • Phlebotomy Chair • PPE Dispenser 	<p>Ability to run a wide range of studies immediately as all necessary equipment in house.</p> <p>Access for researchers to utilise the research space.</p> <p>Provides interest from industry partners to collaborate with the research centre.</p> <p>Ability to offer cross service research opportunities.</p>	Output 1 achieved

<p>Laboratory Equipment inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BioMat safety hood and support stand • Tall refrigerator • -20 under counter freezer • Cube rack • Four-way microtube rack • Centrifuge rack • Rotating shelf tube racks • Reversible 96 well rack • Pipettes and stands • Vortex mixer • Gloves for dry ice handling • Dry ice scoops • Cryogenic lock racks • Cryoboxes • Polypropylene storage boxes • Cryovial • Solvent storage cabinet • Laboratory chairs • -20 freezer • Warming incubators • Flow hood and accessories • -80 freezers 	<p>Ability to run a wide range of studies immediately as all necessary equipment in house.</p> <p>Ability to store samples in space increasing capacity for staff to see patients as no need to transfer immediately to other parts of the hospital.</p> <p>Provides a one stop shop for researchers to utilise the research space.</p> <p>Provides confidence for industry partners to collaborate with the research centre.</p> <p>Increased patient safety and ability to meet research and governance requirements.</p>	<p>Output 1 achieved</p>
<p>IT Equipment inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TV for waiting area • Webcam for conference room • Label printer • Scanners • Headsets • SPSS licence • Laptops and warranties • Tablets and warranties • Docking stations • Desktops and monitors • Lap top cases • Tablet stand • TV wall brackets • Laptop & tablet cabinet • SPSS Licence renewal 	<p>Provides patients with information about the work carried out in the unit and staff to ensure confidence and interest in research participation.</p> <p>Ability for staff to accurately store and process data derived from research projects in line with Data Protection legislation.</p> <p>Provide necessary software to evaluate research data and enable robust research outputs for direct patient benefit.</p> <p>Allows external partners opportunity to utilise space for Patient & Public Involvement.</p> <p>Safe storage of unit assets.</p>	<p>Output 1 achieved</p>

<p>Furniture and Sundries inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating and tables for waiting area • Seating for staff room • Desks for clinic rooms • Patient chairs for clinic rooms • Bariatric chair • Meeting room table and chairs • Desk chairs • Logo designer • Logo signage and vinyls • Wall photographs • Hospital, corridor and reception signage • Whiteboards • Mirrors 	<p>Welcoming environment for research participants.</p> <p>Comfortable area for participants to relax when waiting for appointments or during observation following appointments.</p> <p>Professional areas for research staff to work safely.</p> <p>Inviting environment for staff to work and visiting staff.</p> <p>Strong brand in order to develop DCTU identify locally and nationally.</p> <p>Confidence from potential industry partners that the facilities will provide best environment for recruitment of participants.</p>	<p>Output 2 achieved</p>
<p>Estates inc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building services consultancy • Quantity surveying • Architectural design • Construction services for all flooring, painting, shelving, lighting etc. • Ramped footpath • Asbestos survey • IT and telephony networking • Project Management 	<p>Welcoming environment for research participants.</p> <p>Comfortable area for participants to relax when waiting for appointments or during observation following appointments.</p> <p>Professional areas for research staff to work safely.</p> <p>Inviting environment for staff to work and visiting partners.</p>	<p>Output 2 achieved</p>

Appendix B – Photographs from project

B1. Photographs of Royal Bournemouth Hospital identified clinical space prior to work



Patient Waiting Area



Reception Area



Clinical Room (Now Laboratory Room)



Main Corridor



Consulting Room 2 (1 of 11) *N.B. Door vinyl was added as part of this project*



Consulting Room 2 (1 of 11) *N.B. Door vinyl was added as part of this project*



Staff Room



Previous Data Management Office



Previous Nurses Office

B2. Photographs of space during work









B3. Photographs of space following work



New Data Management Office



Laboratory Room



Clinic Room



Reception Area



Main Corridor



Staff Room



Patient Waiting Area with Vinyl



Side Corridor with Signage and Artwork



Large Clinic Room



Back Corridor



Monitoring Office



Laboratory with Biomedical Hood

B4. Comparison Photos for before/after



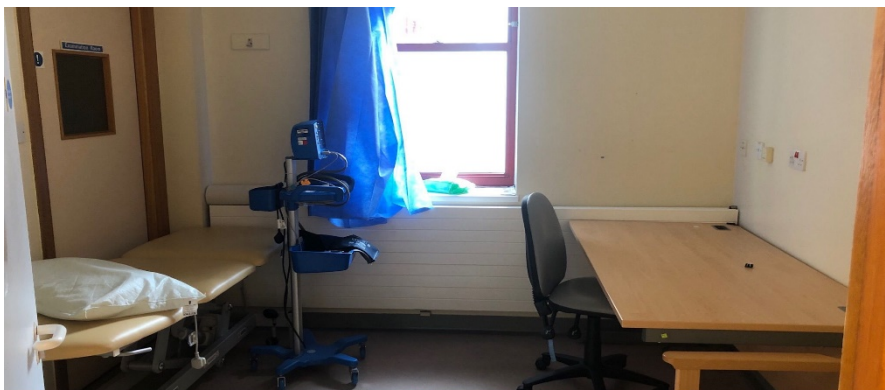
Main Corridor



Laboratory Room



Staff Room



Clinic Room



Clinic Room



Clinic Room



Data Management Office



Clinical Supplies Room

B5. Launch photographs



Patient Waiting Area



Spirometry equipment in Laboratory Room



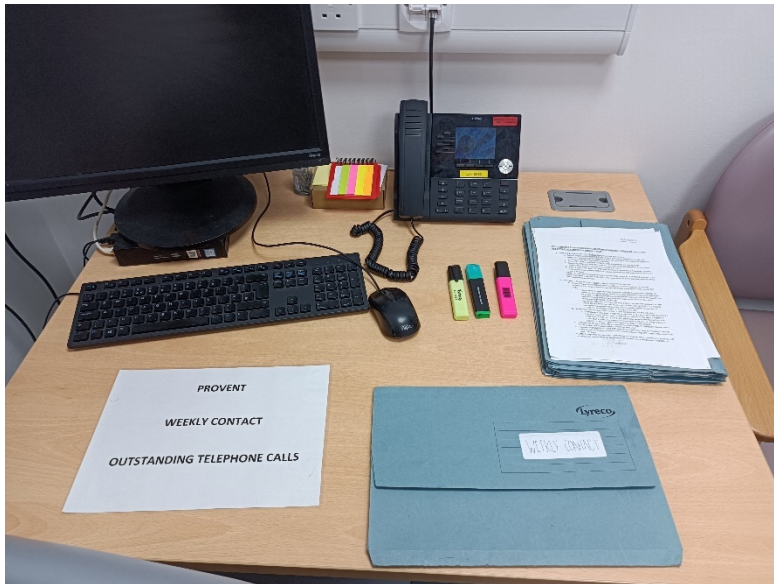
Biomedical Hood



Meeting Room



Clinic Room ready for participant visit



Participant follow up



Monitoring Room



Data Management Office



Clinic Room participant visit



Patient pre study checks



Medical Prep Room

Press Links

[£500k investment in new Dorset Clinical Trials Unit \(uhd.nhs.uk\)](https://www.uhd.nhs.uk)

[University Hospitals Dorset launches new Dorset Clinical Trials Unit – Leading Healthcare](#)

[BU supports Dorset Clinical Trials Unit | Bournemouth University](#)

[£500k invested in new Dorset Clinical Trials Unit opens | Dorset LEP](#)

Outcomes

- **The creation of Dorset CTU will lead to job creation as the trials unit builds to support a growing portfolio of trials (new jobs of a trial statistician, CTU matron, CTU Project Manager, further trial managers, research assistants, research nurses, and data managers).**

FY21/22 Status: - 2.5 FTE were planned during this period. 1 FTE (CTU Matron) and 0.8 FTE (CTU Project Manager) have been successfully appointed. There have been a further 3 FTE posts recruited in FY21/22. However, these individuals have not yet started in post as recruitment checks are ongoing. It is anticipated the employment checks will be completed with individuals commencing in post and drawing down salaries before the end of May 22.

Forecast: - Further posts have also been advertised so far in April 22 (including trial manager and trial statistician) so no issues are expected for additional job roles.

- **Dorset CTU will be able to compete for research funding; Dorset CTU will be able to bring to Dorset £250-450k/ annum (staggered over 3 years) research and knowledge exchange income. To date, we have participated in trials by collaborating with established clinical trials units that has resulted in more than £2.25m research income (since 2009) paid to providers outside of Dorset. Dorset CTU will retain research income within Dorset.**

FY21/22 Status: - No jobs through RKE funding were anticipated in the first year of the project.

Forecast: - Work has commenced for research grant funding applications. One of these is through National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) Research for Patient Benefit (RfPB) funding stream (award up to £350k depending on study type). Another is through an industry partner where they have previously funded a similar study design to the value of £110k. It is anticipated that in addition to this there will be other funding applications submitted and there are no concerns that this outcome will not be met.

- **A clinical trials unit in Dorset will enable health and social care providers to upscale their research, including joint appointments between the trials unit and other organisations (e.g. Primary Care, other NHS Trusts and Bournemouth University), and increased patient access to innovative treatments. This includes social care and public health, as the University has expertise in these areas and is the leading organisation for social care in**

Wessex, and the National Institute for Health Research now has dedicated funding streams for social care and public health research.

FY21/22 Status: - Key collaborations with the new Executive Dean of Health Sciences at Bournemouth University have been initiated to establish how DCTU can support University studies and utilise expertise held by BU staff to develop a joint way of working. This includes having a joint statistician who will be employed on BU but hold an honorary contract with UHD NHS FT.

Trials which incorporate primary and secondary care services are in the recruitment stage within the Dorset Clinical Research Centre with staff from primary care services working in split roles between GP practices and the research centre.

Members of DCTU steering committee have been identified from other local NHS trusts, primary care services and Bournemouth University to strengthen links locally.

Forecast: - Preliminary work relating to collaborations with Bournemouth University and local primary care services would suggest there will be opportunities to joint appointments and joint funding application.

Figure 1. Forecasted intended outcomes of the project are as follows:

OUTCOMES		Unit	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	Total PROJECTIONS
Outcome	Definition							
New CTU posts	The total number of newly created permanent full-time equivalent jobs as a direct result of the intervention. Created jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g. construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year.	FTEs	2.5	1	2	2	2	9.5
New jobs through RKE applications		FTEs	0	1	2	2	2	7
Indirect job creation		FTEs	3.045	3.48	6.09	7.83	7.83	28.75
Total new jobs created		FTEs	5.545	5.48	10.09	11.83	11.83	44.775
Scientific and research jobs safeguarded	The total number of safeguarded permanent full-time equivalent jobs as a direct result of the intervention. Created jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g. construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year.	No.	1	2	3	5	5	16
Gross Value Added (GVA)		£	£505,788	£578,044	£1,011,577	£1,300,599	£1,300,599	£4,696,607
Number of businesses or institutions assisted	The number of businesses or institutions assisted by this intervention.	No.	4	6	2	2	1	15
Sam R&D facilities floorspace	The area of R&D facilities floor space completed. Floor areas should be measured in accordance with the RICS Code of measuring practice (4th edition) 2007. A building should be classified as completed once it is on the non-domestic rating list[sam].	Sam	150	0	0	0	0	150
Number of new retrofits delivered	Number of domestic and non-domestic retrofits completed as a direct result of the intervention.	No.	1	0	0	0	0	1

Figure 2. Outcomes FY 21/22

Outcomes	Government Definition	Unit of measurement	Original FY 20/21 forecast (from GA)	Actual FY 2020/21	Original FY 21/22 forecast (from GA)	Actual FY 2021/22	TOTAL ACTUAL
New CTU posts	The total number of newly created, permanent full-time equivalent jobs as a direct result of the intervention. Created jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g., construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year.	FTE	0	0	2.5	1.8	1.8
New jobs through RKE applications	The total number of newly created, permanent full-time equivalent jobs as a direct result of the intervention. Created jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g., construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year.	FTE	0	0	0	0	0
Indirect job creation		FTE	0	0	3,045	3,549	3,549
Total new jobs created		FTE	0	0	5,545	5,349	5,349
Scientific and research jobs safeguarded	The total number of safeguarded permanent full-time equivalent jobs as a direct result of the intervention. Created jobs exclude those created solely to deliver the intervention (e.g., construction). A job is deemed as permanent if it lasts at least a year.	Sqm	0	0	1	2.28	2.28
Gross Value Added (GVA)		Sqm	0	0	505788	589605	589605
Number of businesses or institutions assisted	The number of businesses or institutions assisted by this intervention	No.	0	0	4	4	4
R&D facilities floorspace	The area of R&D facilities floor space completed. Floor areas should be measured in accordance with the RICS Code of measuring practice (6th edition) 2007. A building should be classified as completed once it is on the non-domestic rating list(sqm).	Sqm	0	0	150	150	150
New retrofits delivered	Number of domestic and non-domestic retrofits completed as a direct result of the intervention.	No.	0	0	1	1	1

Reflecting on the project so far, UHD NHS FT are confident the outcomes stated in the original forecast are achievable and will be realised by March 2025.

Outcomes will be evidenced on an annual basis and provided as required with the Dorset LEP Highlight report. Evidence sources will be as detailed in the Outcomes Certificate - Monitoring and Evaluation Protocol. A brief description of these can be found in the table below: -

New CTU posts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Job descriptions / Job titles UHD Cost Centre
New jobs through RKE applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant applications/funding Job descriptions/ Job titles UHD Cost Centre
Scientific and research jobs safeguarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organogram for Research & Development FTEs within team Updated job descriptions
Number of businesses or institutions assisted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of sponsors/ institutions with studies running in the DCTU and within the DCRC from data stored in the research database.
R&D facilities floorspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photographs In person visits CTU newsletter

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications by LEP/UHD
New retrofits delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographs • In person visits • CTU newsletter

BENEFITS REALISED TO DATE

The impact of the project so far has been evidenced throughout this report but in summary has led to: -

- Bournemouth University/UHD partnership – Strengthened relationship to support UHD in evidencing its University Hospital status and encouraging researchers locally to apply for research funding within the region.
- Industry Collaborations - Increased interest from industry partners to collaborate on research studies and use the DCTU clinical space.
- Patient Benefit - Over 5,000 patient visits including vaccination visits, follow ups and symptomatic visits
- Staff opportunities – Opportunity for staff to work in a new research unit whilst being given additional training and experience meaning that staff are not moving into jobs outside of Dorset.

FINANCES

The original budget for the project was £497,397. All funding was spent and drawn down within the agreed timeframes for the project. At the time of the final drawdown, the project was overspent by £407.95 due to additional furniture costs. We were in close correspondence with the LEP regarding potential overspend and funding was capped at the contract value. The overspend has been covered by UHD NHS FT research budget as it was deemed that this was a valuable investment for the space.

Match funding for the project was planned to be for FY21/22 £314,049. The actual match funding which was invested into the project for this period was £354, 933. This was due to additional resource being put into the project in the final months to ensure we delivered to time and target.

LESSONS LEARNT

At the beginning of the project, several potential risks were identified which may impact the successful delivery of the project. The table below identifies what these risks were, the steps that were taken to mitigate them and any additional information which may be useful to help inform Dorset LEP.

Risk	Mitigation
Space would not be able to be found in the Royal Bournemouth Hospital grounds for Dorset CTU	Discussions happened early on with Senior UHD NHS FT staff to allow the relevant conversations to happen as part of the UHD NHS FT transformation project. Engagement with the hospital Chief Transformation Officer meant that an area was guaranteed for the Dorset CTU for at least the next 5 years.

Refurbishment works would not be completed to time and budget	A contingency for out of hours work was calculated into the grant application and as necessary this was used to ensure that the project was completed with any snagging by the day of the launch (14-Mar-22).
During the proposed capital development phase, there is a potential risk of the Dorset CTU space at Royal Bournemouth Hospital needing to be used for new responses to the Covid-19 pandemic.	During the COVID pandemic period, we were able to utilise the space for Dorset CTU around participant visits and were able to shut off access to certain parts of the unit during building works.
There is a potential risk to supply chains in relation to any ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.	Close working with the NHS procurement team was arranged to ensure that when supplies were required, the suppliers selected would be those which were able to guarantee delivery within the project milestones and to ensure no slippage on the project.
Over the proposed timeline, the UK government may require tight restrictions on daily activity due to the coronavirus.	Strict government guidance was followed to ensure that employees and contractors worked safely in relation to Covid-19 requirements and in line with hospital requirements.
Over the proposed timeline, the UK government may require tight restrictions on daily activity due to the coronavirus.	Participants visits where possible were made as telephone follow ups. Systems used for research studies allowed for electronic data capture meaning staff could capture this data wherever they were working. The research space was designed to allow for participant visit flow to ensure that Covid-19 regulations could be followed.
There is a potential risk that increased RKE income is not achieved at the specified pace.	Work began on award to identify potential funding streams for projects in the pipeline. A CTU Steering Committee has been formed to ensure that studies are opened to secure and increase RKE income.
There is a potential risk around the research governance and impact which could arise from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to apply appropriate ethics review • Failure to obtain and document appropriate consent 	Staff receive thorough training following standard operating procedures and all new equipment has been provided with instructions for use and training for new staff. Internal processes mean that the participant pathway for research studies is clear for staff and new staff (CTU Matron/Lead Nurse and CTU Project Manager) are now in place to oversee the governance of studies run within the unit.

As a result of obtaining this funding, UHD NHS FT were well informed of potential issues with the project.

In hindsight and for future projects, UHD NHS FT would insist a dedicated member of staff is assigned to the project from the UHD finance team to ensure that invoices were drawn down as early as possible to prevent any end of project administrative issues. Due to the merger to University Hospital status there was changes in staff within the finance team which were unavoidable for this project.

SUCCESS STORY

Commercial Partnerships

As a result of design of DCTU's clinical space, staff in the Dorset Clinical Research Centre were able to get a Covid-19 vaccine study up and running (Novavax) within 4 days in which time 641 participants were consented and subsequently 580 participants enrolled in just 7 weeks. This type of success will demonstrate to industry partners how capable UHD NHS FT are in managing and running clinical trials and productive recruitment.

The company Moderna are looking to partner with institutes in the UK for future vaccine studies and UHD has been able to partner on this first study (Covid-19 vaccine) with the intention that this will provide opportunities for future studies. There is now a full pipeline of studies with Moderna being planned for autumn/winter 22/23.

Collaboration with Primary Care

Historically, it has been difficult to provide support for studies which require input from primary care and secondary care due to the differing clinical requirements. With the development of the Dorset Clinical Research Centre (as part of DCTU), it has been possible to partner with The Adams Practice GP Surgery. Research clinicians and nurses from the surgery now work one day a week within the research centre. This means that we can begin to explore other opportunities to work collaboratively with other primary care providers and social care in the region.

The impact of this will be that we can then explore other potential funding streams and other NHS partners as planned within Dorset CCG, other Dorset Hospitals and Social Care providers meaning DCTU are in the unique position to lead on research studies which otherwise will have moved out of the region.

Collaboration with Bournemouth University

As UHD NHS FT has recently become a University status hospital, the establishment of DCTU has been extremely timely as it is the perfect opportunity to encourage closer working with colleagues within Bournemouth University (BU) faculties to see how DCTU can support the university for the Research Excellence Framework (REF) whilst providing DCTU staff with the opportunities to work with BU colleagues on joint research projects.

Research outputs are the priority for the BU/UHD partnership which means DCTU is in a prime position to provide support to BU colleagues which in turn mean DCTU have more opportunity for joint research studies and grants applications.

Dorset CTU Launch

DCTU were able to welcome guests from Dorset LEP and Bournemouth University and UHD Senior Executives to exhibit the new refurbished clinical space and provide a glimpse into the participant experience during a visit for a research study.

DCTU management staff received excellent feedback following the event and look forward to doing a similar event in the future for potential industry partners to show them how we can support their research projects.



(L-R) Cecelia Bufton (Chair, Dorset LEP), Laura Purandare (Head of R&D, UHD NHS FT), David Moss (Chair of the Board, UHD NHS FT), Prof Jane Murphy (Deputy Dean, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, Bournemouth University)



(L-R) Prof Jane Murphy (Deputy Dean, HSS, Bournemouth University), Cecelia Bufton (Dorset LEP), Nicki Lakeman (DCTU Lead Research Nurse/Matron, UHD NHS FT), Alan Betts (Director of Integration and Improvement, UHD NHS FT)

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