



*Research is for Everyone*

# Research & Innovation Strategy

2022-2027

# Foreword

Research is a fundamental enabler in improving the quality, delivery, and outcome of clinical patient care. High quality clinical studies also help generate new insights and positive change and improve our understanding of new conditions. The global and local response to the Covid 19 pandemic further highlighted the crucial and impactful importance of research in advancing and understanding disease.

Many of the research innovations from the pandemic have now been adopted across our research community and by further collaborative working with our healthcare system partners, we will build on this and ensure our research activity meets the needs of our patients, local community and industry.

We know research active hospitals are better hospitals. They deliver better overall care to patients, and have better CQC ratings, resulting in economic benefits and improved staff satisfaction and retention. Following a review of the Research and Innovation function, we have developed our new five-year strategy underpinned by the principle

that “Research is for Everyone”, it must become the norm as opposed to the exception within SFH. This new strategy outlines how we plan to grow and embed research and innovation activities as part of normal care across all our clinical services.

Our patients, staff and partners are integral to the success of the strategy. Over the next five years, we will develop first class facilities to deliver research, empower and support all our staff to get involved in research and work with partners across the system to maximise growth, sustainability, and innovation for the benefit of our patients and staff.



*Phil*

**Phil Bolton**  
Chief Nurse



*Paul*

**Paul Robinson**  
Chief Executive



*David*

**David Selwyn**  
Medical Director

## Our Vision

**To make research part of our daily business, realising the research potential in all areas of our hospitals for the benefit of patients, staff, and our community.**



# Our Mission

1. To embed research excellence as part of our culture
2. To engage all our clinical services in high quality research
3. To be an NHS Trust that champions research



# Place

Delivering high quality research requires high quality infrastructure. We will invest in our research infrastructure and create a new research facility.

We will:

- **Open a new clinical Research Facility on the Kingsmill site in 2023 for clinical trials of new drugs, devices, and diagnostics across all specialities**
- **Partner with NUH on the NIHR CRF 2026 bid for funding to ensure targeted and strategic investment for the future**
- **Develop this infrastructure for early phase research by 2026**
- **Host the Nottinghamshire mobile research unit to deliver trials in our area**



# Progress

Over the next five years we will transform our approach to managing research at SFH to ensure the best use of resources and to maximise research opportunities.

We will:

- **Develop a Divisional research model to integrate research delivery and growth across all specialities**
- **Increase the use of digital technologies for data collection and monitoring performance in order to target resources efficiently**
- **Continue to streamline the research process for faster study set up and to reduce bureaucracy**
- **Continue a targeted development programme with EMCRN and commercial sponsors to increase investment and research opportunities for our patient's**



**Emily March**  
Rheumatology Nurse  
Specialist

*"Research means our patients receive the most up to date care and treatments. It also helps to improve their clinical outcomes and patient morale"*



# People

Research is for “Everyone”, patients, carers, staff and our community. To deliver world class research we need to make it easier for people to get involved at any level.

We will:

- **Invest in our Research Academy, developing a programme that provides insight and a skill base for staff to get involved in clinical research**
- **Develop and launch our joint research programme with Nottingham Trent University to support and equip our workforce with the skills they need to pursue research careers, develop projects or implement research findings and create a unique selling point for SFH as an employer**
- **Invest in our research delivery and management workforce to ensure a sustainable future for research and prepare for future developments**
- **Increase the visibility of research to patients, staff and the public, enhance physical signage and digital visuals relating to research across all our sites**
- **Include research in the staff induction to broaden our reach across all staff groups**
- **Develop an “Innovation Hub” to support staff with innovative ideas through the endorsement and development of these ideas to commercialisation**



**Dr Teresa Joseph**

*“Research helps me keep abreast of new knowledge and gives patients’ an opportunity to try new treatments”*

# Partnership

Partnership and integrated working are key to research growth, sustainability and innovation.

We will:

- **Increase our academic and industry partnerships to maximise mutual benefits from collaboration in research**
- **Further develop our existing partnerships with Nottingham Trent University to leverage expertise to work with our staff in building research capacity and capability**
- **Develop how we engage with patients and the public and our staff to ensure we are delivering research that is important and is prioritised by our community**



**Elaine Parkinson**

*"Research helps to find out what new treatments will work for patients and how ongoing treatments will affect patient outcomes"*

- **Continue to work closely with our partners across the Nottinghamshire Integrated Care System to ensure a coordinated approach to research that can support better health for our community**
- **Develop our collaboration with NUH in order to maximise research opportunities and target investment for the benefit of patients and staff at SFH**



# Key Performance Indicators

2022 – 2027

- **Involve 6000 participants in research at SFH**
- **Increase the number of research projects to 100 at any one time**
- **Secure £1m external funding to support research and innovation activities at SFH**
- **Have 85% of all commercial and non commercial studies recruiting to time and target**
- **Open our new Clinical Research Facility**
- **Have 50 staff trained as Principal Investigators**
- **Have GCP training available as part of mandatory training**
- **Be research sponsor for multiple studies including, including multi centre studies**
- **Be working in active research collaborations with a minimum of 5 academic or industry partners**
- **Have over 100 staff be part of the Research Academy**
- **Have 10 staff undertaking academic research qualifications and project design**

