

# HSST Innovation Project

## Information and Guidance for Workplace Training Officers

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### 1. What is the Innovation Project?

The HSST innovation project requires Clinical Scientists in HSST to conceive an innovation within their healthcare science discipline that has potential to make a positive contribution to service delivery or patient experience or patient outcomes or health economics, or any other aspect of healthcare. The innovation must be carried out at doctoral level and so must be original, must demonstrate that the student is able to think critically about problems to produce innovative solutions and must include the potential to create new knowledge.

#### *An innovation is defined as:*

*'An idea, service or product, new to the NHS or applied in a way that is new to the NHS, which significantly improves the quality of health and care wherever it is applied.'* (Improvement & Efficiency Directorate, Innovation and Service Improvement (2011, p9). *Innovation, Health and Wealth: Accelerating Adoption and Diffusion in the NHS*. Department of Health.

### 2. Must my trainee do the innovation project?

The Innovation Project must be completed by **all** Clinical Scientists in HSST. This includes trainees in all specialisms whether or not they are undertaking the full DClinSci (please see statement from the National School of Healthcare Science sent to trainees on Friday 7 October 2016).

### 3. What is the registration process?

#### **For trainees registered on the DClinSci**

The innovation project forms part of the DClinSci (section C1), if your trainee has registered for the DClinSci at any of the MAHSE Consortium Universities they will automatically be registered to undertake section C1 the Innovation Project.

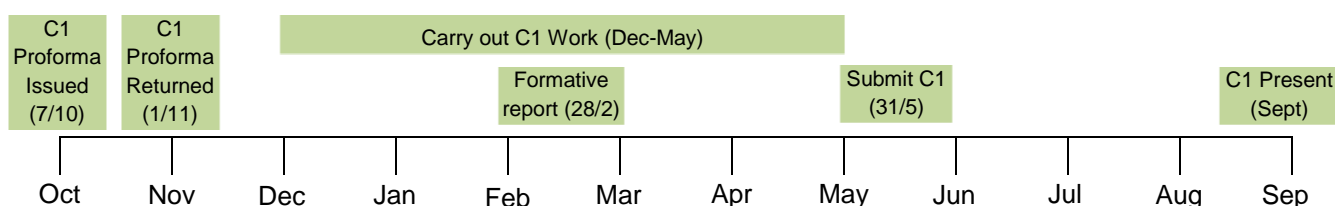
#### **For trainees not taking the DClinSci**

MAHSE will co-ordinate the delivery of the innovation project for all trainees, including those not doing the full DClinSci. Trainees should send an email to [admin@mahse.ac.uk](mailto:admin@mahse.ac.uk) to notify the Universities of their intention to undertake the innovation project as a stand-alone independent unit. This notification must be received by 1 September in the year the trainee is undertaking the C1 unit (usually Year 3).

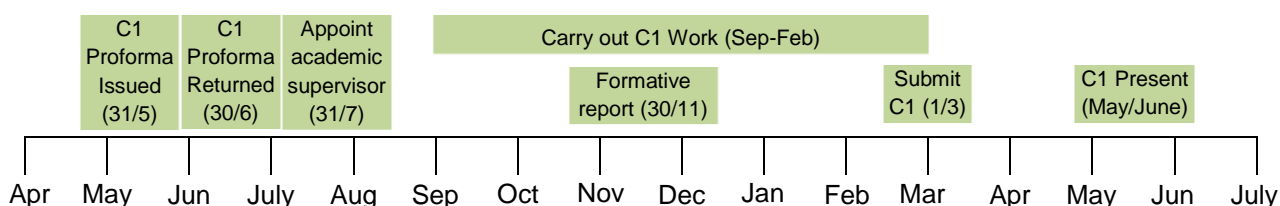
## 4. What is the timing and process for completing the innovation project?

For trainees undertaking the DClinSci the innovation project should be taken during Year 3 of the programme (1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017 for cohort 1). For trainees undertaking the innovation project as a stand-alone unit the project can be taken in any year of training, but the published timeline for start, finish and assessment dates must be adhered to for whichever year the project is carried out.

### Cohort 1 timeline (2016/17)



### Standard Cohort Timeline (2017/18 onwards)



Any trainee undertaking the innovation project, whether as part of the DClinSci or stand-alone, must complete the pro-forma (<http://mahse.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/C1-Innovation-Project-Proforma-for-Trainees-student.docx>) and submit this for approval by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 (for cohort 1) or by 30<sup>th</sup> June preceding the September in which the trainee intends to undertake the innovation project (for cohort 2 onwards). The proforma outlines the idea for the innovation and nominates a workplace based supervisor.

## 5. What support will my trainee get?

Once the proforma is received and approved, the University will appoint an academic supervisor to support the trainee alongside the workplace-based supervisor. The role of each supervisor is outlined here:

### Academic Supervisor

- Advise on the nature and standard of the research and give help with the research planning process
- Liaise with the workplace supervisor to ensure the student receives support and advice as needed
- Maintain regular contact with the student and workplace supervisor – It is recognised that frequency of contact will vary according to the type and stage of the project.

However, a reasonable expectation is that contact (in person, by Skype, by video conferencing or by phone or by email) will occur every two weeks and that at least one face-to-face meeting takes place in each year of the project

- Record and monitor progress of the student in the University's progression monitoring system
- Give feedback on written work drafts in a timely manner as agreed between student and supervisor.
- Ensure the student and workplace supervisor are made aware when progress is not satisfactory and give guidance on how to improve progress
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- Ensure the student is aware of University resources for support and advice

### **Workplace-based Supervisor**

- Advise on the nature and standard of the research and give help with the research planning process
- Liaise with the academic supervisor to ensure the student receives support and advice as needed
- Ensure appropriate resources are available in the clinical setting to support the innovation project
- Ensure the student is given sufficient dedicated time away from clinical duties to undertake and complete the innovation project
- Feedback on written drafts as appropriate
- Liaise with student and academic supervisor to ensure progress is satisfactory

The trainee will have access to the University's virtual learning environment which will contain resources to help with completion of C1 (writing skills, business case information etc.). The trainee's progression through C1 will be monitored using a university progression system to ensure assessments are completed and deadlines met.

The trainee will be assigned an adviser within the University who will be able to advise on personal/pastoral issues if they arise.

## **6. How much time will the innovation project take?**

The innovation project will take 6 months from start to submission of the written assessment. It is anticipated that at least 1 working day per week will be assigned to the trainee to undertake the project and that the trainee will also devote some personal time to completing the project during this period.

## **7. How is the project assessed?**

The innovation project requires development of an idea and planning for its implementation. The innovation project **does not** have to be implemented. However, for those trainees who will undertake the substantial research project (C2) as part of the DClinSci it may be possible to expand and implement the innovation proposal for this purpose (subject to

approval). The innovation project will be assessed via a written submission and oral presentation as follows:

#### **Written component (summative):**

- Literature review\* (4000 words +/-10%)
- Innovation proposal (5 x A4 pages plus appendices if required e.g. survey raw data)
  - Context of innovation (description of the idea and why it is innovative as well as evidence of Stakeholder engagement e.g. focus groups, surveys, interviews, audits etc.)
  - Methodology (including business case)
  - Implementation plan (including recognition of barriers to implementation)
  - Impact of innovation (including executive summary/lay explanation)

#### **Oral component (summative):**

- Presentation

\* Note, the trainee may submit an *Optional* 1,500 word formative submission midway through the innovation project to receive feedback before the final submission.

## **8. What is my role as workplace training officer?**

As workplace training officer you will guide the trainee to ensure the following;

- A suitable project has been identified
- A suitable workplace supervisor\* has been nominated
- Time and resources are available to the trainee to complete the project

\*The workplace supervisor must have prior experience as a researcher to be able to act as a supervisor and each university will have a process for approving supervisors.

## **9. Contacts**

If you have any queries please contact:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area of expertise</b>	<b>E-mail</b>
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