

SBRI MANAGEMENT BOARD

DOCUMENT TITLE:	SBRI HEALTHCARE THEME SELECTION				
AGENDA ITEM:	2.2				
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DATE OF MEETING:	7 November 2018				
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:					
<p>The long list of themes for next year's competition areas need to be identified. The paper sets out the agreed process. The board are invited to agree that this process commence with the soon to be established Academic Health Science Network (AHSN) stakeholder forum making the final recommendations on a short list to the new SBRI programme board.</p> <p>The new programme board will be invited to endorse the short list at their first meeting (expected January 2019).</p>					
KEY ISSUES TO NOTE OR CONSIDER:					
Themes will need to align with the ten-year plan which has yet to be published and the research and innovation needs assessment from NHS England.					
KEY RISKS OR CONCERNS TO HIGHLIGHT:					
Decisions will need to align with the governance report. In future the AHSN Stakeholder forum will determine themes. As the new governance structure is being established the discussion around themes will be shared at the Innovation Exchange INN meeting where all AHSNs are involved.					
REPORT RECOMMENDATION:					
The board are invited to support the approach and plan.					
PURPOSE OF THE REPORT (Indicate with 'x' the purpose that applies):					
FOR INFORMATION	FOR DECISION	FOR DISCUSSION			
	X				
KEY AREAS OF IMPACT (Indicate with 'x' all those that apply):					
Financial		Competitions	X	Communications & Media	
Governance		Legal & Policy			
Programme Management		Evidence and Impact			
Comments: <i>[elaborate on the impact suggested above]</i>					
PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION:					

Theme selection process:

The SBRI Healthcare programme has an established process for identifying themes for its competitions. The process seeks to triangulate the priorities of NHS England, the AHSNs and then cross reference these with industries' capacity to respond.

When considering these priority areas, the SBRI Healthcare programme will also cross reference with previously run competitions.

The process agreed operates with four levels of inputs setting the minimum criteria:

Minimum requirement criteria 1: NHS England - National direction of travel – all proposals will need to reflect the priorities set out in the long term plan when published.

Minimum requirement criteria 2: AHSN licence expectations – all proposals will need to fit with the AHSN licence exceptions – these reflect a need to support improvements for patients.

Minimum requirement criteria 3: All identified themes will underscore the need for efficiency and/or savings because of innovation activity.

Minimum requirement criteria 4: All identified themes will have been identified through the AHSN Innovation Exchange needs definition process (which should be informed by the NHS England needs identification process).

And further **desirable criteria inputs** to include:

- NHS England nationally identified priorities in any period – including those identified by the National Clinical Directors
- Priorities identified by NIHR partners – the Knowledge Transfer Networks (KTNs) – the KTNs work closely with technology companies in a specified clinical area – as such they are well placed to understand where gaps in provision exist

Once themes are identified through this process and inputs are received then triangulation of these against the following areas will be undertaken:

- The UK market's ability to respond (assistance sought from Healthcare KTN)
- Previous competitions – where recent SBRI Healthcare competitions have focused a similar area it may be appropriate to allow the previous competition winners to progress their solutions before new specifications are announced.

The board will also wish to note that the selection panels pay attention to the following criteria as set out in the competition guidance.

Criteria	Weighting (%)
What will be the effect of this proposal on the challenge addressed?	15
What is the degree of technical challenge? How innovative is the project?	15
Will the technology have a competitive advantage over existing/alternate technologies that can meet the market needs?	15
Are the milestones and project plan appropriate?	5
Is the proposed development plan a sound approach?	10

Does the proposed project have an appropriate commercialisation plan and does the size of the market justify the investment?	20
Does the company appear to have the right skills and experience to deliver the intended benefits?	15
Does the proposal look sensible financially? Is the overall budget realistic and justified in terms of the aims and methods proposed?	5

Process for decisions for theme selection 2018/19

The governance review has indicated that the stakeholder forum will provide the SBRI Healthcare programme board with guidance as to theme selection. The process that the stakeholder forum will use is to draw information from the Innovation Exchange as to challenge areas that are identified by STPs/ICS/Patient groups as 'needs' and then consider these against the current innovations offered. From this process the evident gaps in the innovations supplied to the identified needs will emerge.

The stakeholder forum will take this information and provide the programme board with a list of potential theme areas. The stakeholder forum will give the programme board a prioritisation of these theme areas.

As the new structures are being developed at the same time as the process for theme selection needs to progress a hybrid model is proposed for this year.

Emergent theme areas have been identified through the innovation exchanges. These theme areas are:

1. Cancer – Eastern, HIM, ICHP, EM
2. Cardiovascular – Oxford, HIM, HIN, ICHP
3. Frailty – WE, EM, Oxford, ICHP, HIM
4. Additionally, the area of diagnostics has been identified as an identified area by Oxford and North East Coast AHSN.
5. Individual AHSNs have also identified suicide (EAHSN) and rural health (EMAHSN).
6. Alongside these emergent themes the long list from the rolling Theme Selection Matrix (enclosed under Agenda item 2.2). From this rolling list it appears innovations for gastro intestinal conditions might also be a fruitful area.

Reflecting on these inputs and the emergent process around establishing the stakeholder forum the board are invited to provide guidance on the following decisions:

Decisions of the Board required:

1. The board are invited to agree that the stakeholder forum be invited to review the initial list (items 1-6) and consider the gaps in innovative offer before making a recommendation to the SBRI programme board.
2. The board require the management team to support the decisions of the stakeholder forum by providing further evidence and research to facilitate the knowledge of the board around the UK life science sectors capacity to respond and to understand where other innovation programmes outside the AHSN might have already addressed these challenges
3. The board agree to receive the recommendations of the stakeholder forum and make a recommendation at their first meeting of the new board early in 2019.