

Oxford AHSN
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Sir Ian Carruthers
Chair of the IHW Implementation Board
NHS England
Room 4W08
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Re: AHSN Designation

Dear Jonathan

Thank you for your patience whilst we finalised the licensing arrangements for Academic Health Science Networks. I know an enormous amount of work has gone into developing not only the partnerships that will underpin each of the AHSNs, but also in developing your applications. This has been a long and complex process, but is something we could not afford to rush. The agenda we have set ourselves will be challenging, but we have the potential – if we get this right from the start – to transform health and healthcare, and put innovation at the heart of everything we do and improve patient outcomes as well as contribute to economic growth.

I am delighted to confirm that Oxford AHSN will be designated and licensed with immediate effect.

The next step will be to arrange a meeting to provide detailed feedback and discuss funding arrangements with NHS England officials. Rachel Cashman, Head of Innovation Strategy and Programmes at NHS England, will be in touch shortly to invite you to attend an application feedback session on either 20th or 21st May 2013 in London.

Continuity over the coming months will be very important, and it is with this in mind Sir David Nicholson has asked me to continue to oversee the programme in a non-executive capacity, and to ensure AHSNs are fully embedded in the new NHS. I am delighted to continue my involvement with the programme.

May I congratulate you and your team on your designation and please pass on my thanks to all the partners involved in developing your proposals. I am confident you will succeed, and look forward to hearing about the progress you are making when we meet shortly.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Ian Carruthers
Chair of the Innovation, Health and Wealth Implementation Board
NHS England