

HEALTH INNOVATION COUNCIL

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Britain is recognised as a leader in basic science and the development of health innovative techniques and technologies. It is recognised that adoption of these innovations is variable across the NHS. The Health Innovation Council has been established to promote the benefits of medical innovation to the NHS and social care system and provide leadership in supporting the discovery, development and adoption of cost-effective health technologies throughout the services, helping to co-ordinate and support existing work streams.

The Council will advise ministers on issues relating to improving patients' access to cost-effective new medicines, medical technologies, procedures and processes through the NHS and social care system. It will encourage a greater focus on innovation across the system, by supporting the discovery and development of new products and techniques, and encouraging greater adoption of models of care where there is good evidence of improved outcomes.

The Council will seek to embed the benefits of introducing innovation in all aspects of health and social care by:

- providing leadership and advocacy with key decision-makers in the NHS on the benefits to patients, the NHS and the country, of adopting cost-effective new technologies and models of care
- working with all relevant Government funded bodies including OSCHR, NIHR, the Research Councils, and other funders and stakeholders to encourage the discovery and development of innovative products and methods so that more new cost-effective technologies, procedures and practices are taken up in the NHS and social care
- taking an overview of work across the innovation pathway from discovery to adoption to provide an assurance that the Department of Health and relevant national bodies - in particular the NHS Institute of Innovation and Improvement (NII) and the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) and the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) - are promoting innovation and uptake of innovation within their policies, strategies and outputs
- building on work already underway within existing structures and leading on the development of recommendations on innovation discovery, development, adoption and application in healthcare as part of the NHS Next Stage Review and overseeing their subsequent implementation

The Council's objectives and membership will be reviewed as necessary.

3 October 2007