

Research Strategy update

As you know from our web announcement back in December 2012, the charity has been undertaking work both on our research strategy and on the realignment of our portfolio of awards. We have been developing a new process for our awards which we presented to our board for approval in late January. Much work has been done and we want to bring you up to date.

The charity has always been a strong supporter of academic cancer research in Yorkshire. Whilst this will continue to be a focus, donors and other supporters have repeatedly made it clear to us that our research strategy needs to be more visible and clearly understood, and that the funds we allocate should support that strategy. Those who support us are now much more interested in outcomes and value for money than ever before.

As a result, the charity needs to evolve, and we need to ensure that we remain relevant to the people of Yorkshire. We will further extend the use of our stakeholders in deciding which research activities we support and, at the same time, maintain the high standards of excellence in the work we fund.

There are a number of key areas where we are making important changes as a result of the adoption of our new research strategy:

- 1. We will maintain a broad range of awards including research (basic/discovery, clinical and translational) and talent development, but we are simplifying the application and review processes to improve efficiency, governance, consistency and quality.**
- 2. Future applicants will need to be very clear on the potential outcomes of their research and the likely route from the laboratory to the patient. Our priority will be to move more towards research that has a well-articulated and demonstrable clinical application.**
- 3. Applicants will need to be diligent and specific in explaining the relevance of their work to the people of Yorkshire including the potential impact on the types of cancers, the incidence and survival rates and the improvement in health that might be derived from their work.**
- 4. The charity has historically funded research exclusively within Yorkshire but there is much to be gained from more open competition, for example, gaining access to national funding for clinical trials. We will therefore consider any and all opportunities that might help the people of Yorkshire avoid, survive and cope with cancer.**
- 5. The way we engage with universities and researchers is also changing and the quality, breadth and depth of those relationships will be taken into account when considering applications. We will interact at several levels within each institution to ensure that our respective strategies are aligned, management and financial controls are effective and the potential outcomes will make a real contribution to the delivery of our charitable objects.**

It is important to understand that how we will do things in the future will be very different from previous years. The scheme below explains how the process will run from 2013 onwards.



This way, we put the benefit to the people of Yorkshire right at the forefront of our assessment process.

The full research strategy will appear on our [website](#) in the next couple of weeks. A "Notes for Applicants" document together with revised versions of our Award Conditions, Policies for Awards and Awards Information will be also be available via the website on Monday March 11th 2013, so if you are planning to make an application to the charity for an award, please review this information before completing the new preliminary application form.

The preliminary application deadline is 12pm on Monday the 15th of April 2013

Animal research – NC3Rs funding panels are recruiting

NC3Rs is looking for senior academics to join its funding panels. The NC3Rs is an independent organisation supporting scientific and technological developments that replace, reduce or refine the use of animals in research. It is looking for high calibre senior academics, from universities, institutes or the private sector, for vacancies on the following panels:

- Studentship Assessment Panel, Chair
 - Grant Assessment Panel, nine members
 - Studentship Assessment Panel, seven members
- Further details about the vacancies are on the [NC3R's website](#). Deadline for applications is 11 March.

Horizon 2020 Advisory groups – apply to be a member

The European Commission is calling for UK researchers to become members of its Advisory Expert Group and provide advice on developing the Horizon 2020 research agenda. Please visit the [European Commission's website](#). Horizon 2020 is the new European Union (EU) Framework Programme for Research and Innovation. It will bring together all EU research and innovation funding. The programme will run from 2014 to 2020, and being a member of the Expert Advisory Group will enable researchers to influence the way the programme is developed over that period. Individual researchers can register their interest by 6 March.

Annual Science Meeting

This year's Annual Science Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 26th June 2013 at the Pavilions of Harrogate, Great Yorkshire Showground. We are pleased to announce our guest speaker will be Professor Roger Griffin from Newcastle University.

To register for this year's meeting please email rachel@ycr.org.uk for a registration form. Details of the programme will be released on the website and via the YCR newsletter as soon as they are available. If you would like to be added to the newsletter circulation list, please contact rachel@ycr.org.uk.

The deadline for registration is Friday 1st March 2013

Join Team YCR

We have places in a wide range of running and walking events this year, including the Great North Run and the Jane Tomlinson For All Events series. These events raise an incredible amount of money for us and we couldn't fund so many world-class research projects without our fantastic team of participants and volunteers.

To enter any of the events listed below, or join our team of desperately needed volunteers, please visit our [Events](#) web page or contact Rebecca by calling 01423 877210 or emailing rebecca@ycr.org.uk.

Jane Tomlinson's Peak District Walk - 28th April 2013

Jane Tomlinson's Hull 10k - 19th May 2013

Jane Tomlinson's Pennine-Lancashire 10k - 2nd June 2013

Jane Tomlinson's Leeds 10k - 14th July 2013

Jane Tomlinson's York 10k - 4th August 2013

Jane Tomlinson's Yorkshire Dales Walking Festival - 18th August 2013

Jane Tomlinson's Lake District Walking Festival- 8th September 2013

Bupa Great North Run - 15th September 2013

Bupa Great Yorkshire Run 10K - 29th September 2013

The Plusnet Yorkshire Marathon - 20th October 2013

Please note: The Yorkshire Marathon is currently sold-out but we still need volunteers

