

Minute of the 21st Honest Broker Governance Board Meeting

Thursday 22nd August 2019

Present:

Voting members: Mary McGonigle (MM) (Western Heath and Social Care (HSC) Trust), Irene Knox (IK) (Southern HSC Trust); Dr Hilary Russell (HR) (Lay Member), Colm Burns (CB) (Patient Client Council), Dr Nicola Armstrong (NA) (Public Health Agency (PHA)); Dr Brendan O'Brien (BOB) (Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) and Chair of the Honest Broker Governance Board (HBGB)).

Non- Voting members: Charlene McQuillan (CM) (DoH); Susan Campbell (SC), Martin Mayock (MM), Alan Harbinson (AB), Scott Mathieson (SMa) (all BSO).

In attendance: Dr Siobhan McGrath (SM) (BSO) as Secretariat.

Apologies were noted from the following

Voting Members: Alison Murphy (AM) (Belfast HSC Trust); Dr Seamus O'Reilly (SOR) and Briege Donaghy (BD) (Northern HSC Trust), Dr Aaron Peace (AP), (Western HSC Trust); Dr Peter Sharpe (PS) (Southern HSC Trust); Dr David Hill (DH) and Paul Carlin (PC) (South East HSC Trust); Karen Bailey (KB) (BSO); Christine Kennedy (CK) (DoH).

Non-Voting members: Neil Marsden (NPM) and Naomi Mill (NM) (BSO)

1. Presentation 'Lessons learned from the development of metadata for the NIMATS system' Dr Diane Anderson, Health Intelligence Manager, Public Health Agency (PHA).

Dr Anderson delivered her presentation to the Board.

The Board commented that that the work done on the NIMATS dataset has improved data quality. The NIMATS metadata had been published on the Honest Broker Service (HBS) website and this has generated queries from researchers and other stakeholders. It is has also been helpful for normal BSO business and it has helped direct data quality. The Board thanked Dr- Anderson for her and her team's work.

1. Apologies were noted and the meeting was deemed to be quorate.
2. The minutes of the 20th HBGB meeting were ratified by the Board, and may now be published on the HBS website.
3. Chair's Overview:
Dan West (Chief Digital Officer, Northern Ireland) is convening a digital health workshop in September 2019. He has identified priorities which will form a digital strategy including the data strategy for Northern Ireland. This will cover a 5 year period. The ENCOMPASS program continues to proceed at pace. This involves significant decisions including replacement of the (Patient Administration System (PAS) system with ENCOMPASS. The challenge of this change will be a 5 to 10 year transition period when both systems will need to coexist. This affects the data

strategy, including the need to start a data standardisation program. The board asked if there is any learning from national groups. The Chair (BOB) responded that he is involved in a national group and intends to make a presentation on the HBS. He is also involved in the Four Nations General Practitioner Information Programme (GPIP) space. Also Dan West is influencing UK wide and referencing international expertise in terms of research practice. The Board asked the Chair if research will be part of the strategy. Health and data are part of the City Deal and the Chair has been liaising with Prof Ian Young (Chief Scientific Advisor to the Department of Health, Northern Ireland). Dan West wants sight of a HBS dashboard including performance metrics. There was some discussion about this.

4. Attendance Overview

There was discussion about the HSC Trusts' involvement on the Board and the application review panel. It was noted that some Trusts have not been as active as others. The DoH requires HSC trust involvement given that the data in the HBS comes from the HSC Trusts. Action: This data is to be shared with the Trust members, not in attendance.

The Chair was open to convening extra panels if the HBS was receiving larger numbers of studies. There was some discussion about applications coming to panel recently which were not ready for review e.g. there were no signatures or identified Chief Investigators for some recent studies. The impact of this is that it delays approval from the application review panel. Therefore the readiness for review needs to build into the planning process and the communications with researcher applicants before assignment to the panel for review. It would be useful for metrics to be produced for researchers to demonstrate when work was with the HBS and when it was back with researchers for modifications. ACTION: A ready for review dashboard and metrics are required.

5. Update on HBS Projects and outreach activities.

An update was given on research requests and non-research requests since the last Board meeting, as well as ongoing research projects. AH has noted an upsurge in research and non-research activity.

6. Update on ADRC/HBS pilot and HDR-UK Initiatives.

ADRC/HBS pilot: SC gave an update to the Board. There was a legal impediment for data linkage between ADRC and HBS (which had been the original approach). An alternative method is still being explored to progress via NILS. The proposal has been drafted and is awaiting sign off from Trust Information Governance leads and the BSO Legal Services. Subsequent to successful sign off the pilot can start in September 2019.

HDR-UK: There has been limited progress on this project. BSO has installed the necessary hardware in the HSC datacentres. BSO has not yet received the HDR UK tenancy agreement for installation of software at the HBS. This is disappointing as this would have enabled remote access via the SAIL platform in Wales. Phase 1 of the pilot will use Open

Data. The Chair of the HBGB is to contact Professor David Ford (Director for SAIL, Wales) to progress this.

7. HBS staffing issues

The HBS is expanding but there is a staffing shortfall and the funding of those existing temporary staff is precarious and based on non-recurrent funding within BSO.

The service is now reaching a critical stage with a shortfall of staff and an increasing volume of work in the pipeline. . At the last Strategic Information Group (SIG) meeting in June, a request for on-going central funding for HBS was endorsed and Dan West agreed to look into possible sources.

At the last Honest Broker working group meeting Karen Bailey agreed to raise funding issues with Dan West and to notify Prof Ian Young of current staffing position.

Separately a bid for funding had been submitted under the Digital Innovation Hub Programme described by Prof Mark Lawler (Health Data Research UK) at the last meeting of this group. To date no award of funding has been notified.

8. Action Log: An update on the Action Log was given.

9. Any Other Business- date of next meeting Fri. 22.11.2019 (10:00 to 12:00 ORECNI Board room Lissue Lisburn) No speakers to be invited to this meeting.

Signed:



Dr Brendan O'Brien – Chair HBGB

Date: 22-November-2019