

## Cancer Research Domain Lead/Co-Leads: Philanthropy, innovation and external funding

At the University of Sheffield, we are entering the next phase of our [Cancer Research Strategy](#) and have a unique opportunity to establish Sheffield as a globally recognised Centre of Excellence in cancer research. We are seeking expressions of interest from those looking for opportunities to lead initiatives to grow **philanthropy, innovation and external funding** relating to cancer research. You will play a significant role in establishing a Centre to act as the catalyst for groundbreaking research, as we work together towards the university's vision of delivering life-enhancing research as an ambitious, inclusive, collaborative community.

**About the role:** The Lead/Co-Leads will be responsible for positioning cancer research as a cause for donations and supporting our community to facilitate grant application success across the [five themes of the cancer research strategy](#). The role will suit those who have cancer-related research experience and a track record of leading successful bids/high value research grants. Individuals with additional experience in innovation and commercialisation and/or leveraging philanthropy to support research are particularly encouraged to apply. You do not necessarily need to be experienced or knowledgeable in all three areas. We welcome co-leadership where appropriate. **Domain Leads/Co-leads may choose to appoint a deputy and/or a sub-committee to support delivery.** We welcome expressions of interest from staff employed in any School/Faculty and encourage expressions of interest from a diverse range of backgrounds.

The Lead/Co-Leads will be appointed for an initial term of 3 years (re-appointable upon application). The Lead/Co-Leads will:

- **Work with the Cancer Research Executive to establish a Centre of Excellence:** feed in to the next phase of the strategy and oversee an implementation plan in line with wider pillars of the university's vision; join quarterly Executive meetings
- **Devise a fundraising plan for cancer research:** work with Campaigns & Alumni relations and philanthropy leads to position cancer research as a cause for donations, identifying priority areas of research which could benefit from, and could be positioned, as causes to attract donations
- **Grow external income:** support our community to facilitate grant success and grow our research portfolio; support other Domain Leads on the Cancer Research Executive to convene groups/meetings to capitalise on our research excellence, identifying opportunities to better position ourselves to apply for funding from diverse sources (e.g. government, commercial funds), moving beyond the YCR ringfenced funds; advise the Cancer Research Oversight Board on the strategic direction of YCR Pioneers ringfenced funding and participate in the internal review process; receive quarterly reports on grant application activity with relevance to cancer across the university (pipeline, submitted, successful and unsuccessful)
- **Support innovation and impact:** work with the Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation teams to ensure that researchers are aware of opportunities to embed knowledge exchange and impact into their cancer research
- **Improve communication:** work with colleagues in Research Partnerships & Innovation to raise awareness among the cancer research community of diverse sources of income; advise on the structure and content for our website as it relates to funding, philanthropy and innovation (support provided); support the fulfilment of internal monitoring and reporting requirements, including an annual report (support provided)
- **Strengthen partnerships:** support the Co-Directors and wider Executive to strengthen relationships with funders and potential donors (guided by Campaigns & Alumni Relations)
- **Foster collaboration and strengthen our community:** feed into the development of the annual Cancer Research Away Day (organisational support provided)
- **Raise issues, risks and opportunities:** work with the Executive to propose solutions to the chair and members of the Cancer Research Oversight Board relating to research, innovation and/or impact
- **Attract and develop people:** support initiatives to recruit high-calibre cancer researchers to the university and support the career development of mid- and early-career cancer researchers

The Domain Lead/Co-Leads will work closely with Co-Directors Prof Jim Catto and Prof Penny Ottewell, the Executive, and Faculty Directors of Research & Innovation. The Lead/Co-Leads will be supported in their role by Rachel Corcoran, Cancer Research Strategy Manager and Zoe Lingard, Cancer Research Growth Manager, alongside other professional services. The responsibilities may evolve over time, in discussion with role-holders.

**How to express your interest:** Expressions of interest are invited in the form of a letter and a short CV, to [cancer\\_research@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:cancer_research@sheffield.ac.uk) by **Friday 19 December**. You should demonstrate the support of your Head of School (HoS) (e.g., via a short email attached to the EoI). Short interviews will be held. The successful candidate will be invited to start as soon as possible. You are welcome to discuss the role informally with Penny Ottewell ([p.d.ottewell@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:p.d.ottewell@sheffield.ac.uk)) or Jim Catto ([j.catto@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.catto@sheffield.ac.uk)). The role will usually attract hours in the Work Allocation Model (WAM), subject to approval from your Head of School. The successful candidate and HoS decide how much time can reasonably be devoted to the role, given other commitments. The role does not attract an honorarium but travel & other expenses can be considered.