

Adopting Innovation

General feedback on unsuccessful expressions of interest

December 2020

Thank you for your interest in [Adopting Innovation](#). We were excited to receive such a large number of expressions of interest, and of such high quality. Unfortunately we can only invite 12 teams to submit full applications.

Due to the sheer number of expressions of interest, we are not able to offer individual feedback at this stage. However we have compiled a summary of the main reasons that applications were not taken forward.

- **The expression of interest was not led by an NHS provider with a system partner.**
The lead applicant for this programme must be an NHS provider as defined in the FAQs on our [webpage](#). The system partner plays a key role in the creation of a hub, as defined in our [Call for applications](#).
- **The project scope was too narrow, limited to a specific condition or pathway.**
The [Adopting Innovation](#) programme is focused on the creation of innovation hubs, supporting organisations to become better adopters of innovation. To enable this we expect hubs to be able to respond to needs and challenges within their local system and area – across a range of conditions rather than tied to a single condition.
- **The hub proposed to spread one specific innovation rather than to support the adoption of multiple innovations.**
As above we want innovation hubs to be able to respond to needs and challenges in their local system and areas. As part of their process we would expect them to work through from problem definition to innovation identification and implementation, rather than starting with a single specific innovation.
- **The existing work of the host organisation was either too developed or not developed enough.**
In a small number of applications, we felt that additional funding from the Health Foundation could only have had a small impact on the existing work of partnerships, with infrastructure and momentum already well-established. Conversely, there were applications where innovation hubs would need to establish relationships and infrastructure from the very beginning. This suggested it would be more of a challenge for our funding to have the desired impact within the programme timeframe.
- **It wasn't clear how the hub would support the adoption of innovation.**
Some applications focused on the development of the hub and why the

organisation(s) would make a good host, but there was less emphasis and clarity on how the hub would support better adoption of innovation in practice.

We know that the AHSN Network in England is keen to continue conversations with provider organisations, even if their expressions of interest for **Adopting Innovation** were not taken forward – so we would encourage you to reach out to your AHSN. If it would be helpful for the Health Foundation to put you in touch, please do **let us know**.

We appreciate the time and effort that goes into developing an application. The overall quality of expressions of interest was very high, and we hope you will consider other **funding opportunities** from the Health Foundation in future.