

**Present in person**

Forename	Surname	Membership	Internal/ External	Department/Company
Nessa	Carey	Core (Chair)	External	Former Entrepreneur in Residence, Medical Sciences Division, Carey IIT
Helen	McShane	Vice (Vice-Chair)	Internal	Deputy Head of Division and Associate Head of Division (People and Translation) (NDM, MSD)
Esther	Becker	Core	Internal	Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics (MSD)
Eleonora (Claire)	Lugara (Brown)	Core	External	Oxford Science Enterprises (OSE)
Liliane (Heather)	Chamas (Roxborough)	Core	External	OSE
Laura	Ferguson	Core	External	AstraZeneca (Expert in Residence (ExiR))
Jan	Wolber	Core	External	GE Healthcare (ExiR)
Toni	Day	Core	External	Independent (ExiR)
Giles	Sanders	Core	External	TTP (ExiR)
Paul	Cox	Core	External	Apellis Pharmaceuticals (ExiR)
Helen	Fletcher	Core	External	Johnson and Johnson
Liisa	Chisty	Officer	External	Oxford University Innovation (OUI)
Steve	Silvey	Officer	External	OUI

**Present online**

Forename	Surname	Membership	Internal/External	Department/Company
Antony	Galione	Core	Internal	Pharmacology (MSD)
David	Clifton	Core	Internal	ENG/IBME (MPLS)
Oliver	Harrison	Core	External	Koa Health /Entrepreneur in Residence Medical Sciences Division
Gillian	Tannahill	Core	External	Johnson and Johnson

**Officers, in person**

Forename	Surname	Membership	Internal/External	Department/Company
Deepak	Kumar	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)
Kavita	Subramaniam	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)
Anna	Camera	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)
Vlada	Yarosh	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)
Oliver	Rughani-Hindmarch	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)
Deborah	Thomas	Officer	Internal	MSDO (TRO)

**Apologies:** Matthew Wood (MW), Sue Ann Clemens (SAC), Fadi Issa (FI), Eleanor Stride (ES), Paresh Vyas (PV), Ruth Barrett (RB)

- Welcome and Introductions to Committee Members & Translational Research Office
- Minutes of previous meeting
- Budget for 2025-2026
- Conflict of Interest Declarations
- Ranked List of proposals
- AOB

**General Comments:**

- OUI are present to provide input on the IP strategy of the projects.
- The feedback provided by the reviewers in this round was the best one the MLSTF scheme has witnessed.
- Everything discussed at the meeting is strictly confidential, all feedback is constructive, anonymised and is provided as group feedback.
- Summary of the Innovation co-funding scheme EOI application provided
- Summary of the funding volume given.
- Chair highlighted that it's unnecessary to exhaust all available funds if not warranted.
- Summary of the conflicts of interest section and what to do if you have a Col.
- Minutes from the previous round signed off.
- The Committee suggests that low-ranking projects are not discussed (34-45).

**Notable metrics:**

- 89% of the proposals have already been assigned an OUI LVM before submission.
- 45 applications received. The TRO had a sight of 73% of these proposals.
- 38 applications were from the Medical Sciences Division (MSD). 5 applications were from the Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division (MPLS).
- 33% were female applicants.
- An additional 25 scientific experts were recruited by the TRO, aligning them to the relevant proposals.
- 8 applications from the ETIs were submitted in this round.
- Innovation co-funding:
  - Cancer Research Horizons: 8 EOIs received and 1 shortlisted
  - Johnson&Johnson: 10 EOIs received and 2 shortlisted
- £1.1m of funding available.

**Awards metrics:**

- 15 projects awarded out of 45 applications (33% success rate)
- 2 ETIs awarded out of 8 applications (25% success rate)
- 5 applications from the MPLS, 3 awarded.
- 8 women and 7 men were awarded. 53% are female award holders.

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- Clinical interventions: 11 projects are categorised as Therapeutics/Drug Discovery, 2 projects as Medical Devices and 2 as Diagnostics.
- Top 3 research areas awarded: 1. Bioscience for Health; 2. Neuroscience; 3. Infection/Immunity/Inflammation/AMR
- Top 2 departments awarded: NDCN and Paediatrics

**Awards Made:**

Final Rank	Title	Division	PI	Award
1	Implementation of phase-targeted deep brain stimulation using a human device.	MSD	Sharott, Andrew	£81,329.73
2	Creation of a stimulation device for use within the Smart Infant Monitoring System (SIMS) platform to measure pain in preterm babies	MSD	Slater, Rebecca	£83,649.65
3	Preclinical assessment of a promising RNA editor for CRB1 gene therapy	MSD	MacLaren, Robert	£24,000
4	LG11 gene therapy for the treatment of neuropathic pain	MSD	Dawes, John	£56,059.53
5	A novel malaria diagnostics for community health care with optical imaging of hemozoin	MPLS	Berry, Richard	£84,951.44
6	Pandemic preparedness: Development of a point-of-care rapid test for diagnosing Henipaviruses	MSD	Adams, Emily	£84,055
7	Identifying falsified vaccines using a series of repurposed low-cost tests for use in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)	MSD	Zitzmann, Nicole	£84,977.61
8	Enhancing the efficacy of therapeutic oligonucleotides by new synergistic	MPLS	Brown, Thomas	£72,593.31

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	chemical modifications			
9	Development of novel hypoxia-modifying drugs for cancer treatment	MSD	Higgins, Geoffrey	£84,973.1
10	Establishing biomarkers to predict patient drug response in inflammatory bowel disease	MSD	Dendrou, Calliope	£42,350
11*	Evaluation of Carrier Systems to Enhance the Efficacy of Therapeutic Oligonucleotides	MSD	Frommer, Jennifer	£35,989.32
12	Preclinical development of influenza neuraminidase vaccine	MSD	Rijal, Pramila	£38,000
13	Maternal mitochondria transfer as a novel therapy for treatment of Fetal Growth Restriction	MSD	Kandzija, Neva	£49,856.10
14	Raiden: AI powered platform for RNA-drug discovery	MSD	Gullerova, Monika	£85,000
15	Pre-clinical optimisation of an Immune Stimulating Ultrasound Responsive Drug Delivery Platform Technology.	MSD	Lyons, Brian	£84,250
				<b>Grand total: £977,034.79</b>