



NORTH WEST COAST  
ACADEMIC HEALTH  
SCIENCE NETWORK

# AHSN Innovation Scouts



# Innovation

*‘an idea, service or product, new to the NHS or applied in a way that is new to the NHS, which significantly improves the quality of health and care wherever it is applied’*

Innovation, Health and Wealth, 2011



# AHSN Innovation Scouts

The North West Coast Academic Health Science Network (NWC AHSN) has a pivotal role to play in improving the health and wealth of our region, which covers Cheshire, Merseyside, Lancashire and South Cumbria.

Central to our ambition is to identify and evaluate, adopt and spread at scale and pace, innovations that will improve the health and wellbeing of our population. We aim to do this by creating a movement which is inclusive of all our NHS, Local Authority, and Academic colleagues along with other partners including industry and the voluntary sector



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# Innovation Scout's role

The role of an Innovation Scout is to:

- Encourage a culture of innovation within their organisation
- Proactively promote and encourage adoption of evidence-based innovations
- Integrate innovation as a core process
- Embed in staff behaviours.



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# Supporting Innovation Scouts

The AHSN will support the Innovation Scouts in their role by:

- Providing access to a FREE comprehensive training and development programme, including leading edge improvement techniques
- Named AHSN Programme and Project Managers who will support the Innovation Scout in promoting the adoption of the NWC AHSN's approved innovations and service improvements



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# Supporting Innovation Scouts, continued

- Identifying opportunities to interact with world class academics and industry leaders
- Opportunities to influence health policy through topic specific surveys/events etc.
- Notification of, and support in pursuing, external funding
- Opportunities to showcase their work on a regional, national (and potentially international) platform
- Provision of materials and access to events specifically aimed at helping organisations create an innovation culture



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