

MEMBER SHOWCASE

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# Case study

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Aintree University Hospital   
NHS Foundation Trust

## Supporting innovation

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Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

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### The challenge

During conversations with staff at Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, it became clear they had many innovative ideas on how to improve care but no spare budget to implement them.

### What was done

In 2014, the board created an annual innovation fund of £250,000 and set up a Dragon's Den style process to assess bids. Staff complete an application form detailing their idea and its financial requirements, as well as explaining how the project would benefit patients, staff and the trust.

Shortlisted applicants are invited to present their idea to the 'Dragons' – a panel made up of the chief executive and other board members. A

bid workshop helps staff develop their pitches. Following all presentations, the panel decides which bids to fund and offers supportive advice to those who could progress their ideas in other ways.

A showcase event keeps staff informed of progress with the projects and helps foster a collective sense of pride. Some of those involved in winning bids have gone on to mentor others who are new to the process.





## The results

By May 2016, 31 projects had received funding.

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## Acknowledgments

A huge thank you to Linda Matthew, assistant director to the medical director at Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, for working with us to help showcase this initiative.

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## For more information

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