# NHS R&D Forum Sponsorship Survey Results - Executive Summary

Research and Development Forum

In 2010 the NHS R&D Forum (RDF) Non-Commercial Sponsors Reference Group conducted a survey. There have been many changes since then and the NHS RDF repeated this survey with the inclusion of some additional questions. The aim of this survey was to understand what fees NHS Organisations are being charged and what models are in use.

### **Key Findings**

### <u>Responses</u>



Sponsors



35 responses 47% from NHS Trusts 41% sponsor 1-49 studies



50% don't charge a sponsorship fee 64% calculate fees on a per study basis based on activities

## Funders



54%

35%

Half of respondents do not pass the cost of taking clinical trials Insurance through to the funder

54% received no feedback from funders when including sponsorship costs in the grant application

35% do not intend to charge a sponsorship costs fee in the future



28%



Most have 1-3 WTE contracting/legal specialists (governance specialists/coordinators) working on sponsored trial contracting

Majority contract out sponsor services (mainly eCRF / database design 28% and management 22%)

54% have acted as co-sponsor and have had no issues

## What does this mean for future practice?

- Framework for sponsorship cost is much needed as no standard approach for cost recovery in place across the system as a whole
- Difficulties with funding model documentation
- Funding approach needs acceptance by Chief Investigators and funders
- Suitable system needed to make tracking studies more efficient
- Opportunity for ongoing conversation with funders and policy makers to support a standard approach for sponsoring health and care organisations
- Next step: Findings from the survey to be progressed by the RDF Non-Commercial Sponsors Reference Group

Any questions regarding this survey? <u>info@rdforum.org.uk</u> Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute to this survey