

# Life sciences in the central South



**A region skilled at partnerships - offering a unique mix of expertise underpinned by a proven culture of collaboration, drawing upon:**

- A broad academic base with complementary health and environmental science expertise, a strong innovation track record, solid community engagement
- Extensive networks and trial facilities for innovators tackling national health priorities
- Specialist science and health skills and institutions, united by an interdisciplinary culture

**A region rich in intellectual capital, with:**

At least 300 innovative life science businesses, five universities, NHS trusts engaged in community and clinical research, a National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) regional programme of applied research serving local people, and national assets such as the internationally recognised National Biofilms Innovation Centre (NBIC), National Centre for Computer Animation, National Oceanography Centre, Future Photonics Hub

**Served by extensive testing and evidence facilities, including:**

- Trials capability across two integrated care systems (ICS)
- NIHR Research Design Service South Central
- Portsmouth Technology Trials Unit
- NIHR Southampton Biomedical Research Centre and NIHR Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Facility
- Southampton Clinical Trials Unit

**Leveraging sector strengths, including:**

- Medical technologies
- Health data and artificial intelligence
- Biomedical research

**Targeting national challenges:**

- Healthy ageing
- Microbial impacts
- Adolescent mental health
- Health inequalities
- Health and the environment

**Leading to commercialisation and adoption aided by dedicated regional support from:**

- Dorset Innovation Hub
- SETsquared
- Southampton Science Park Catalyst Programme
- Wessex Academic Health Science Network
- NIHR Clinical Research Network Wessex

**A region poised for growth and opportunities within life sciences:**

- Rich scope for return on investment, healthy supply of new investment opportunities
- New innovation spaces in the pipeline at Basingstoke, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Solent Freeport, all with close links to London and Oxford
- Potential to build further on successful regional health data partnerships
- Career opportunities for skilled life sciences from across disciplines
- Regional training in life science skills of the future
- Testbed for innovation and adoption - with dedicated support for innovators to scale up
- Potential to repeat the success of established regional cross-disciplinary networks to tackle new health and environmental challenges
- Drive to build upon exceptional regional collaboration galvanised by pandemic