



# Office for Life Sciences

Office for Life Sciences Bulletin – 27 September 2023



## **OLS Introduction**

The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) is a joint unit between the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT).

This bulletin aims to keep the life sciences sector up to date on the latest government announcements and wider opportunities in policy areas which may be of interest to the sector.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email [sonia.davies@officeforlifesciences.gov.uk](mailto:sonia.davies@officeforlifesciences.gov.uk)



## **News**

### **NEW – Funding competition for Medicines Manufacturing Skills: Centre of Excellence launched.**

Innovate UK, a part of UK Research and Innovation, will work on behalf of the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology to invest up to £5.3million to establish a skills centre of excellence. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – Funding competition for flexible, agile, scalable and sustainable medicines manufacturing.**

Innovate UK will invest up to £5 million in projects that encourage the development and adoption of flexible, agile, scalable and sustainable technologies (FASST) for the development and manufacture of medicines. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – The Health and Social Care Delivery Research Programme is inviting Stage 1 applications to a new funding opportunity.**

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), in partnership with the Office for Life Sciences (OLS), is inviting applications for a new funding opportunity - Evaluation of a pilot for use of obesity medications outside of hospital settings. NIHR is looking to commission a research team to carry out an evaluation alongside the roll out of a weight loss drug pilot in England. The pilot aims to give more eligible patients living with obesity access to the newest and most effective obesity drugs by trialling models outside of a hospital setting. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – UKHSA announces new UK-based vaccine deal**

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has agreed a deal for millions of life-saving vaccines to be produced in the UK if a future influenza pandemic is ever declared. This is in collaboration with CSL Seqirus and means they will be on standby to produce over 100 million vaccines in the event a pandemic is declared by the World Health Organization (WHO). Manufacturing these potentially life-saving vaccines inside the UK gives us speedier and more secure access, enabling us to roll them out to those who need them more quickly. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – Landmark agreement with Israel takes UK global science mission to new heights**

The UK and Israel have agreed Memorandum of Understanding for faster and deeper collaboration on science, innovation, and technology. This deal unlocks £1.7 million worth of joint research projects with a focus on critical technologies like quantum. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – Government and NHS to help tackle killer heart condition**

The Health and Social Care Secretary Steve Barclay announced measures to tackle aortic dissection. Aortic dissection is a life-threatening condition that takes the lives of 2,000 people a year in Britain. The formation of an NHS working group that will bring together clinical experts and charities aims to improve diagnosis and treatment of the condition. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – UK announces transformational support to boost global health at UNGA**

New UK funding will help to tackle future pandemics, boost research into vaccines and reduce deaths from infectious diseases and end preventable deaths of mothers, new-borns, and children. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – More than half a million people have made organ donations via the NHS App**

People across England have been encouraged to use the NHS App as an easy way to register their organ donation decision. **Read more [here](#).**

### **NEW – EPSRC are seeking members for their Science, Engineering and Technology Board (SETB) and Strategic Advisory Team (SAT)**

If you're an experienced leader with a broad view of research and innovation the EPSRC are looking for new members for their advisory bodies. **Read more [here](#).**



#### **Useful Links**

- The [Office for Life Sciences](#) homepage provides updates and information on all things from the Life Sciences sector and ongoing government work.
- Information around Horizon Europe funding can be found [here](#).
- Guidance for businesses on Brexit can be found [here](#).
- Access the 'Check How to Export Goods' tool [here](#) for the information you need to export goods out of the UK market.
- If you're a UK business selling goods or services to Europe, you can contact the UK government [export support team](#) by phone or online.
- Access the 'Check How to Export Goods' tool [here](#) for the information you need to export goods out of the UK market.
- Click [here](#) for more information and advice on exporting.
- In England, [Growth Hubs](#) can advise on local and UK Government business support.

- Register for HMRC's free [Trader Support Service](#) if you are moving goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Click [here](#) to view the latest weekly Trader Support Service (TSS) bulletin.
- The most up-to-date guidance on the [Northern Ireland Protocol](#) is on GOV.UK, including information on moving goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland.
- If you need to get in touch with the MHRA, please email [MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk](mailto:MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk) or phone 0203 080 6000.