



Office for Life Sciences

Office for Life Sciences Bulletin – 5 October 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



News

NEW – Biomanufacturing Fund: Re-opened for further expressions of interest

The Biomanufacturing Fund is looking to support commercial-scale vaccines and biotherapeutics manufacturing projects that will improve the UK's health resilience for future pandemics. The Fund has now re-opened for a Phase 2. The deadline for expressions of interest is Friday 3 November 2023. Please contact bmf@officeforlifesciences.gov.uk for more information. Read more [here](#).

NEW – Genomics England announces list of rare conditions to be included in world-leading research study

Genomics England have published an initial list of over 200 rare conditions to be investigated as part of a world-leading Generation Study. The Generation Study is an NHS-embedded research study aiming to understand whether sequencing babies' genomes can help to discover rare genetic conditions earlier. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – MHRA pays tribute to Nobel Prize winning scientists behind mRNA COVID vaccines

Dr Katalin Kariko and Dr Drew Weissman developed the technology behind the mRNA COVID vaccines. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – MHRA authorises monoclonal antibody treatment Jemperli, to be used with chemotherapy for endometrial cancer

For the first time, patients with certain types of advanced or recurrent endometrial cancer could access a treatment shown to slow its progression. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – New £60 million Regional Innovation Fund among measures to boost research and development

The new Regional Innovation Fund will boost support for universities in areas with lower levels of research and development investment. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – Government to invest £30 million in innovative technology for NHS

Patients across the country will benefit from the investment in innovative medical technology. Integrated care systems will be invited to submit bids for a share of the £30 million to roll out innovative technology. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – Public asked to shape the future use of health data by the NHS

Members of the public will be asked about how the NHS uses their health data to improve patient care, as part of a series of events next year. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – NICE says non-invasive weight loss procedure could be an option to treat obesity

Draft guidance states that the evidence shows that endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty (ESG) is safe in the short and long term when combined with lifestyle changes could help with weight loss. **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 or phone 0203 080 6000.