



Office for Life Sciences

Office for Life Sciences Bulletin – 12 January 2024



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 – SME webinars on apprenticeships

The Department for Education (DfE) have shared the latest series of apprenticeship webinars to support SMEs to deliver successful apprenticeships. Employers will get the opportunity to hear from other employers as they share their experiences, advice, and guidance to support businesses on their apprenticeship journey. A full list of topics can be found on the [webinar landing page](#). The webinars will also be promoted on DfE social media channels and employer representative groups are encouraged to share this on their channels too.

NEW – i4i & OLS Real World Evidence Programme

The Invention for Innovation programme in collaboration with the Office for Life Sciences & the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence will soon be inviting applications for the i4i & OLS Real World Evidence Programme. The call aims to support consortia to address real world evidence gaps to accelerate widespread adoption of technologies recommended for early use in the NHS through NICE Early Value Assessment (EVA). The call will open for applications on 31 January 2024. Find out more about the call and register for the launch event on 23 January 2024, 10:30 - 12:00 [here](#).

NEW - MHRA publishes Regulatory Roadmap

The MHRA has this week published its Regulatory Roadmap, setting out the pathway for new measures which will support safe access to medical technology, including AI and diagnostics. The government will ensure that there is a proportionate, phased approach to the

implementation of the future regulatory framework, which supports system readiness and minimises the risk of supply disruption for UK patients. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – Help inform MRC’s public partnerships strategy

The Medical Research Council (MRC) wants your thoughts on how they work in partnership to shape and share research. MRC has co-developed a strategy for public partnerships to improve research and is inviting everyone to give their views on these plans. This new draft strategy outlines the organisation’s ambitions for creating effective collaboration and genuine partnerships between researchers, MRC staff, professionals, individuals and communities over the next three years. The consultation will run for three weeks from 8 to 29 January 2024. **Read more [here](#).**

NEW – Winners of global AI cardio-health challenge announced

The successful five winners of a brand-new challenge from a collaboration of regulators and healthcare organisations in the UK and US was announced on Wednesday (10 January 2024). The challenge saw 25 teams of artificial intelligence and machine learning developers from across the globe compete against each other to build models that predicted heart failure-related health outcomes for veterans **Read more [here](#).**



Useful Links

- The [Office for Life Sciences](#) homepage provides the latest updates and information on the governments work with the life sciences sector.
- 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 [Windsor Framework](#) 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.