



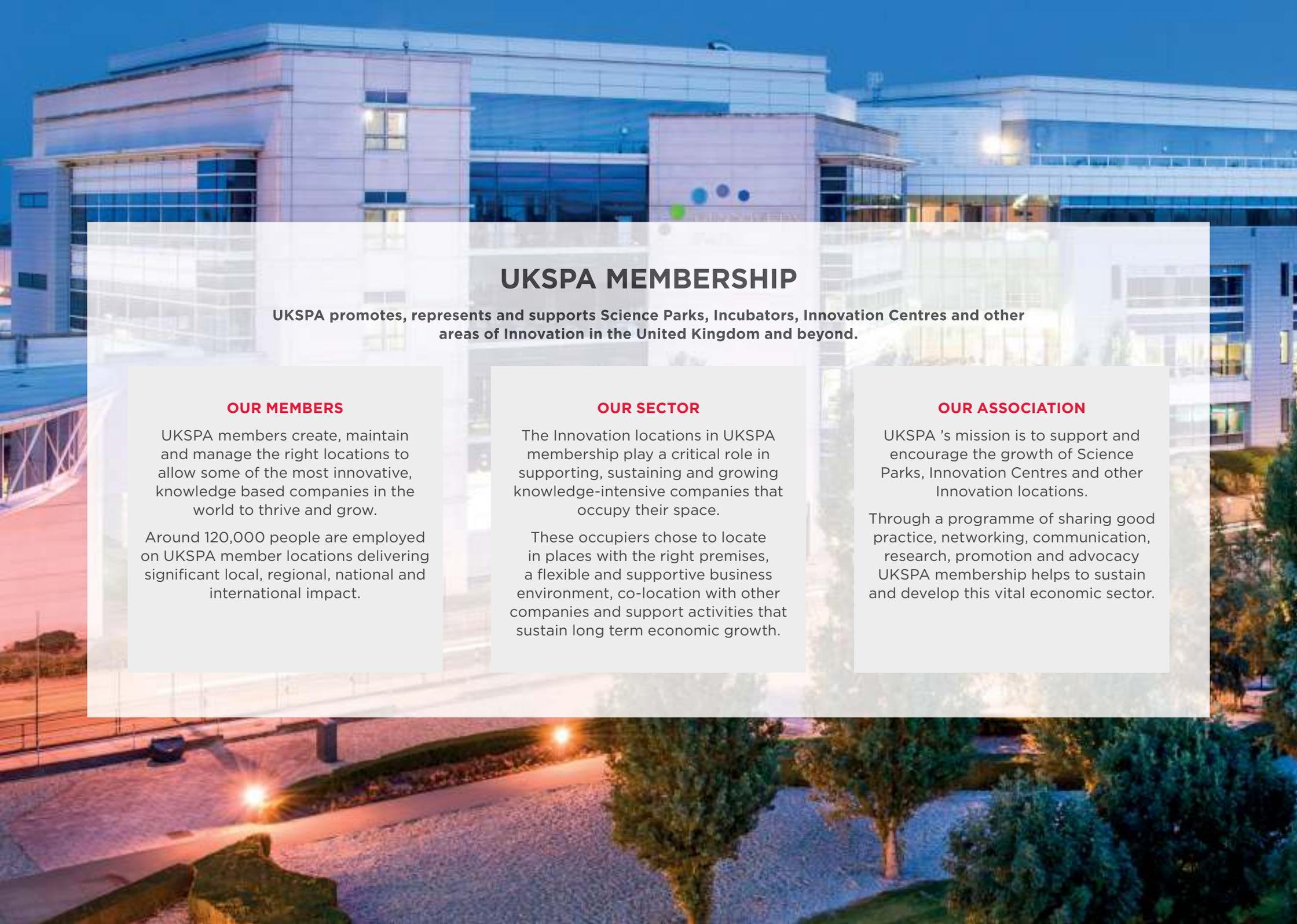
**UKSPA**  
BUILDING · TECHNOLOGY · BUSINESS

# THE UNITED KINGDOM SCIENCE PARK ASSOCIATION

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CONNECTING INNOVATION PLACES

[www.ukspa.org.uk](http://www.ukspa.org.uk)



## UKSPA MEMBERSHIP

**UKSPA promotes, represents and supports Science Parks, Incubators, Innovation Centres and other areas of Innovation in the United Kingdom and beyond.**

### OUR MEMBERS

UKSPA members create, maintain and manage the right locations to allow some of the most innovative, knowledge based companies in the world to thrive and grow.

Around 120,000 people are employed on UKSPA member locations delivering significant local, regional, national and international impact.

### OUR SECTOR

The Innovation locations in UKSPA membership play a critical role in supporting, sustaining and growing knowledge-intensive companies that occupy their space.

These occupiers chose to locate in places with the right premises, a flexible and supportive business environment, co-location with other companies and support activities that sustain long term economic growth.

### OUR ASSOCIATION

UKSPA 's mission is to support and encourage the growth of Science Parks, Innovation Centres and other Innovation locations.

Through a programme of sharing good practice, networking, communication, research, promotion and advocacy UKSPA membership helps to sustain and develop this vital economic sector.



**MEMBERS SAY:**

“Southampton Science Park has reaped tangible benefits from its association with UKSPA over the years. The presentations and discussion panels at UKSPA conferences have provided us with opportunities to learn about current best practice, as well as inspiring us with innovative ideas from the UK and further afield. We have subsequently adapted some of these and introduced them successfully in Southampton; we have also shared our own developments with the network, enabling others to learn from our own experience.

**Jane Holt, Head of Business Development and Company Secretary  
University of Southampton Science Park**

## OUR SECTOR

The science and Innovation sector is a dynamic and growing eco-system that is vital to the future prosperity of the United Kingdom.

The Innovation locations in UKSPA membership play a critical role in supporting, sustaining and growing knowledge intensive companies that occupy their space.

Over the last three decades, the emergence and growth of Science Parks and similar Innovation environments throughout the UK has helped create many thousands of scientific, technical knowledge-based businesses.

Their Occupiers chose to locate their R&D and other Innovation activities in places with the right premises, a flexible and supportive business environment , co-location with other companies and access to advice and business support that sustain long term economic growth.

### AT THE HEART OF INNOVATION

The Innovation locations in UKSPA membership play a critical role in supporting, sustaining and growing the knowledge intensive companies that occupy their space.



**5,800**

**companies and organisations occupy space on UKSPA member locations**

Source: UKSPA member survey 2018/19

## OUR MEMBERS

UKSPA members create, maintain and manage the right locations to allow some of the most innovative, knowledge based companies in the world to thrive and grow.

Science and Technology Parks perform a key function acting as an interface between business and centres of knowledge such as universities, government funded laboratories, hospitals, and in some instances corporate laboratories, and Research/Technology Organisations with the purpose of helping to commercialise ideas that arise from the UK's research base.

UKSPA members provide the vital engine room for accelerating the growth of the companies they support. They join up the various parts of their Innovation journey, from the earliest stages of growth in an incubator or business Accelerator, to the maturity of major international companies benefiting from open Innovation Campuses in the United Kingdom.

Around 120,000 people are employed on UKSPA member locations delivering significant local, regional, national and international impact.



**4,000+**

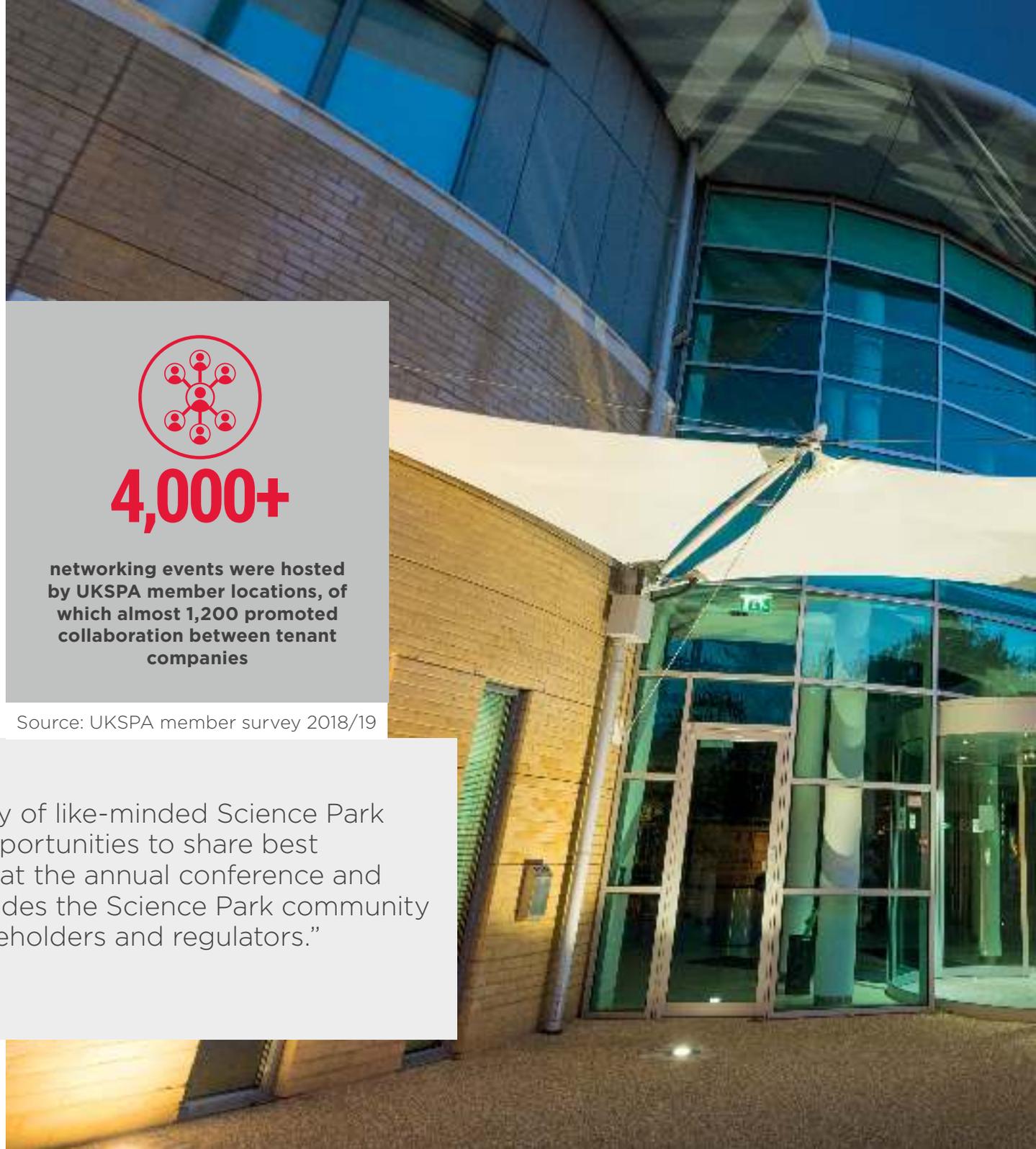
**networking events were hosted  
by UKSPA member locations, of  
which almost 1,200 promoted  
collaboration between tenant  
companies**

Source: UKSPA member survey 2018/19

### **MEMBERS SAY:**

“UKSPA aligns me to a community of like-minded Science Park professionals. I really value the opportunities to share best practice and to learn from others at the annual conference and periodic events. UKSPA also provides the Science Park community with a united louder voice to stakeholders and regulators.”

**Frank Roberts, Site Manager  
Brixham Laboratory**





“It is very clear to us that UKSPA plays a pivotal role in the Science Parks sector and we would strongly recommend Science Parks and Innovation Centres to become members. Belonging to this strong and very collegial ‘community of practice’ has been really very beneficial to us as an organisation, and it has also enormously helped colleagues who are new to this type of provision to quickly gain wider understanding”

**Jon Walker, Director of External Affairs  
Loughborough University**

## OUR ASSOCIATION

The UKSPA network of managers, developers, investors, owners and supporting businesses all share a common goal.

This is to create a growing, effective Innovation sector with the right facilities, infrastructure, services and business growth activities for the 6,000 companies and other organisations that they support on a daily basis.

UKSPA’s mission is to share good practice to assist the growth of existing locations and encourage the development of new facilities and activities.

Through a programme of events, networking, communication, research, promotion and advocacy UKSPA membership helps to sustain and develop this vital economic sector.

### AN IMPORTANT VOICE

*“UKSPA has been an essential way for me as a manager of a Bio Incubator to contact and interact with other industry experts and suppliers to help me build our projects and seek advice where needed. The sharing of best practice and facilities knowledge have been invaluable.”*

**Graham Hewson, Head of Incubation White City Incubator  
Imperial College London**



#### MEMBERS SAY:

“The UKSPA 35th anniversary conference in Birmingham proved to be a winning combination of insightful presentations, tours, social events and networking opportunities, all expertly managed. As ever, UKSPA succeeded in bringing together the great and the good of the Science Park, incubation and Innovation world for two days of unbeatable knowledge-sharing and network-building. As an exhibitor we found the range of influential decision-makers we were able to connect with was unparalleled, enabling us to identify many potential new opportunities at the same time as catching up with longstanding clients, all in a relaxed atmosphere.”

**James Chaffer, Product Director  
CLARITY CORE**

## WHO CAN JOIN UKSPA?

### SCIENCE PARKS

Science Parks, Technology Parks, Research Campuses, Innovation Campuses and similar locations.

The common thread for all of these locations is that they deliver added value to their knowledge intensive occupiers and members.

Those with the aim of stimulating more Innovation based businesses, delivering high quality space, programmes and support while often working with other players – universities, Research and Technology Organisations and other key stakeholders – all form part of the UKSPA community of members.

### INNOVATION CENTRES AND INCUBATORS

Innovation Centres, Technology Incubators and accelerators are all valuable members of UKSPA.

These locations form an essential part of the Innovation eco-system and share similar characteristics and ambitions.

Incubation activity on member locations is a unique and highly flexible combination of business development processes, infrastructure and people, designed to nurture and grow new and small businesses by supporting them through the early stages of development and change.

### AREAS OF INNOVATION (AOI'S)

The Innovation sector is constantly evolving and the growth of AOI's is a notable feature.

Innovation Districts, Knowledge Quarters and other AOI's attract knowledge-intensive businesses to a locality by bringing together a range of Innovation assets with other services.

### BUSINESSES AND AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Business Affiliates share UKSPA's aim of supporting an effective and distinctive science and technology sector. UKSPA Business members play an important role in delivering added value to the sector. This may be through effective design and build of the locations themselves, the delivery of physical assets and infrastructure or by providing strategic guidance and support to developers and occupiers alike.

#### MEMBERS SAY:



*“UKSPA is a great forum and network to be a member of. Meeting fellow practitioners and sharing best practice provides valuable help and support, particularly at early stages of development for any new*

*Science Park, Innovation Centre or Incubator. The membership fee represents great value for money and I would have no hesitation in recommending that you join.”*

**John Mackenzie, Chief Executive Officer  
Roslin Innovation Centre**

# WHY JOIN UKSPA?

ADVOCACY | GROWTH | NETWORKING | RECOGNITION | SUPPORT

## SUPPORTING THE SECTOR

UKSPA's role as an advocate for the science, Innovation and technology sector is strengthened by the breadth and range of its membership. Increased understanding and recognition by Government and other stakeholders' benefits all with ambitions to grow our sector.

A significant number of members have been part of UKSPA for many years - illustrating the ongoing value that membership brings to long established Innovation locations and their quest for continued improvement.

The continued growth of UKSPA also demonstrates the commitment from more experienced members to share their knowledge and insights that add value across the sector.

## PROMOTION AND RECOGNITION

The UKSPA website is often the first point of call for those with an interest in the Science and Innovation sector. The UKSPA website and communications provides visibility for your facilities and activities.

Membership also provides you with recognition that your company or Innovation location is on the map and is part of a flourishing network.

The review process for potential UKSPA members ensures that membership provides endorsement that your location or company plays a special role in the science and Innovation sector.

This ensures that members are recognised as distinct and specialist Innovation players.

## MEMBERS SAY:

*"UKSPA is one of the most collaborative communities of professionals I know. Membership is a fast track for individual professionals and Science Parks to consult with immense aggregated knowledge and experience when developing products and services supporting innovative companies."*

**Dr Mark Tock, Operations Director  
University of Nottingham Innovation Park**

## IMPROVEMENT AND GOOD PRACTICE

Keep up to date with member activity through our website and gain access to research and resources in the member only section of the site.

UKSPA member events provide opportunities to hear from stakeholders as well as colleagues from other locations.

Sharing ideas, initiatives and challenges in a supportive network is hugely beneficial to members.

## AN IMPORTANT VOICE



*"Sci-Tech Daresbury has been a member of UKSPA for nearly 13 years. During this time we have benefited enormously from being part of a community that promotes the openness to share ideas, experiences and best*

*practice of the benefit of other Science Parks and the companies within them"*

**John Leake, Business Development Manager  
Sci-Tech Daresbury**



## MEMBERS SAY:

"M-SParc's membership of UKSPA enabled us to have great advice and support during our early days and our development phase. As a brand new Science Park, UKSPA put us in touch with a wide range of Science Parks and Innovation Centres and the knowledge gained was invaluable in developing our plans.

The members meetings and events give us wonderful networking opportunities, and a chance to share experiences and best practice. Having moved into our operational phase, M-SParc will continue to benefit from UKSPA membership in the years to come."

**Ieuan Wyn Jones, Director  
Menai Science Park**



#### MEMBERS SAY:

“AberInnovation joined UKSPA in 2018, not long after we started construction of the Aberystwyth Innovation and Enterprise Campus. We have gained a great deal from being a member already and I view UKSPA as the body we now look to for advice on a whole range of topics.

Our team have attended several regional meetings as well as the annual conference and networking with other Campuses and Science Parks means we can ask a lot of questions and plan our Aberystwyth activities more effectively as a result of learning from more mature operations around the UK”

**Dr Rhian Hayward MBE, CEO  
Aberystwyth Innovation and  
Enterprise Campus**

## INNOVATION LOCATIONS

### THEIR IMPORTANCE AND GROWTH

#### A GROWING NETWORK

The steady growth of UKSPA membership over recent years is testament to the value that UKSPA offers to existing members as well as the enthusiasm that aspirational and developing science and Innovation locations have in building relationships and learning from others.

The growth and shared experience of Science Parks and other Innovation locations now deliver facilities and support for a new generation of entrepreneurs.

The focus on facilitating growth for businesses, entrepreneurs and start-ups continues however and now covers fields like robotics, AI, IoT and Virtual Reality alongside the biotech, life science, Digi-Tech and creative sectors companies that have always been present on UKSPA member locations.

#### A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Locations in membership of UKSPA play a special role in developing knowledge intensive businesses with high growth potential.

Science and Technology Parks perform a key function acting as an interface between business and centres of knowledge such as universities, government funded laboratories, hospitals, and in some instances corporate laboratories, with the purpose of helping to commercialise ideas that arise from the UK’s research base.

#### OCCUPIERS

Over the last three decades, the emergence and growth of Science Parks and similar Innovation

environments throughout the UK has helped create many thousands of scientific, technical knowledge-based businesses.

These companies locate in a Science Park (or Innovation Centre) to take advantage of a variety of services ranging from financial advice through to marketing support, from sharing scientific equipment to investor pitches.

This, combined with world class facilities and infrastructure and co-location with like-minded business contributes enormously to the local and national economy.

#### A TRUSTED ADVISOR

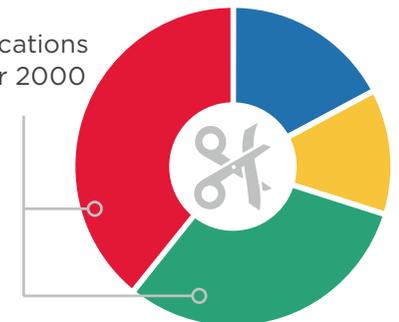
*“We found participation has resulted in an immediate increase in interest in our products with a number of trials arranged, orders for Nooks received and even a new collaboration established. Great value for time and money.”*

**David O’Coimin,  
Nookpod**

## YEAR OF OPENING

**70%** of UKSPA locations opened after 2000

- **17.2%** Pre 1990
- **12.6%** 1990s
- **31%** 2000s
- **39.1%** 2010s



Source: UKSPA member survey 2018/19



**MEMBERS SAY:**

“As one of the founders of UKSPA since 1984, we have benefited hugely from this community of members with a common interest in developing locations that facilitate innovative, high growth and knowledge based organisations.

The shared advice on good practice, counsel on potential challenges, networking opportunities available and the chance to showcase quality and excellence ensures a mutually beneficially relationship for all members. The landscape for science and research parks has grown and evolved substantially and members of UKSPA are collectively helping shape and direct the future of Science and Research Parks in the UK.”

**Dr Malcolm Parry, Founder and CEO  
Surrey Research Park**





**120,000** People are employed on UKSPA member locations



**Science Park Employees: 80,000**  
**Research & Technology Organisations: 25,000**  
**Innovation Centre Employees: 11,000**  
**Other Jobs, including operational management and support staff: 4,000**

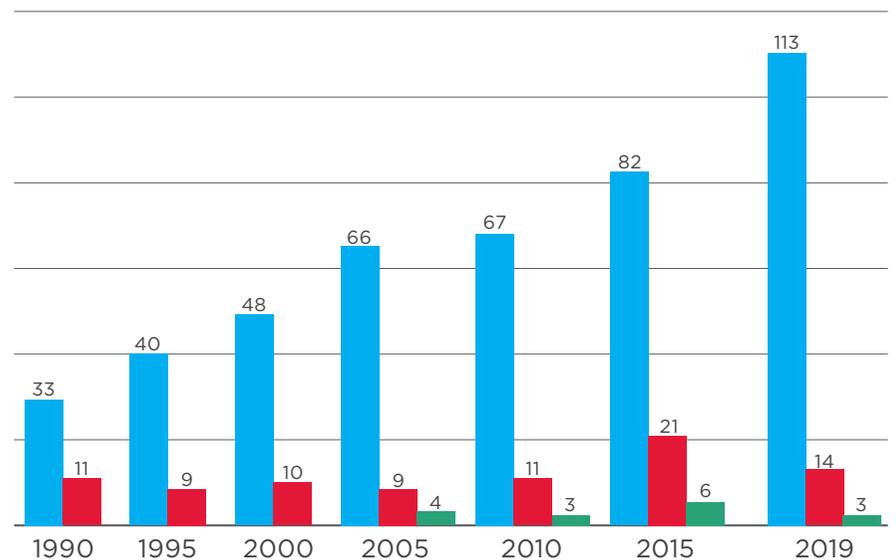
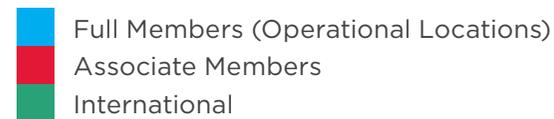
Source: UKSPA member survey 2018/19

## MEMBERSHIP

From the eight original members of UKSPA in 1985, UKSPA has developed into an organisation representing around 130 members providing support and facilities to almost 6000 occupying companies and organisations, employing 120,000 people.

## GROWTH AND LOCATIONS

The Association has members across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland as well as internationally.



## UKSPA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS IN BRIEF



### MEMBER EVENTS

Members receive up to two free places at the regular series of UKSPA events. These conferences attract around 150 members and stakeholders. Each event includes an evening drinks reception and networking dinner. All events are CPD accredited. Recent UKSPA national conferences have attracted over 700 delegates with an awards dinner, study tours and exhibitions while attracting leading national and international speakers.



### KNOWLEDGE SHARING

There are a wide range of opportunities to increase your knowledge of both strategic and operational good practice at UKSPA events, through our publications and on our website. Event workshops cover a diverse range of issues and panel sessions ensure that there are comprehensive discussions on topics of interest to members - whatever the operational model or area of activity. All are CPD accredited.



### RECOGNITION

All membership applications are considered by the Board of UKSPA. This scrutiny means that all UKSPA members undergo a peer review that recognises their Innovation support, facilities and wider contribution to entrepreneurship and economic growth. Using the UKSPA Member logo ensures that you are recognised as meeting the standard required for UKSPA membership and are committed to contributing and growing the sector to the benefit of all.



### PROMOTION

Promote your facilities, activities and initiatives on the UKSPA website our social media and other publications. Contribute news, events and available property to the widest audience. The UKSPA website is often the starting point for those with an interest in the benefits of locating on a Science Park or Innovation Centre.



### MEMBERS SAY:

“UKSPA’S activities are a great way to benchmark our activities with our peers and ensure that we’re doing everything we can to help our tenants prosper.

The access to facilities, resources and knowledge from other members and across the sector is second to none.”

**Asmaa Shariff, Head of Client Services and Innovation Programmes  
Rothamsted Enterprises**



### MEMBERS SAY:

“Discovery Park views its UKSPA membership as an important way for it to learn from its peers and keep up to date with latest developments.”

**Dr Martino Picardo, Chairman  
Discovery Park Kent**

# COMMUNICATION, EVENTS, NETWORKING AND RESEARCH



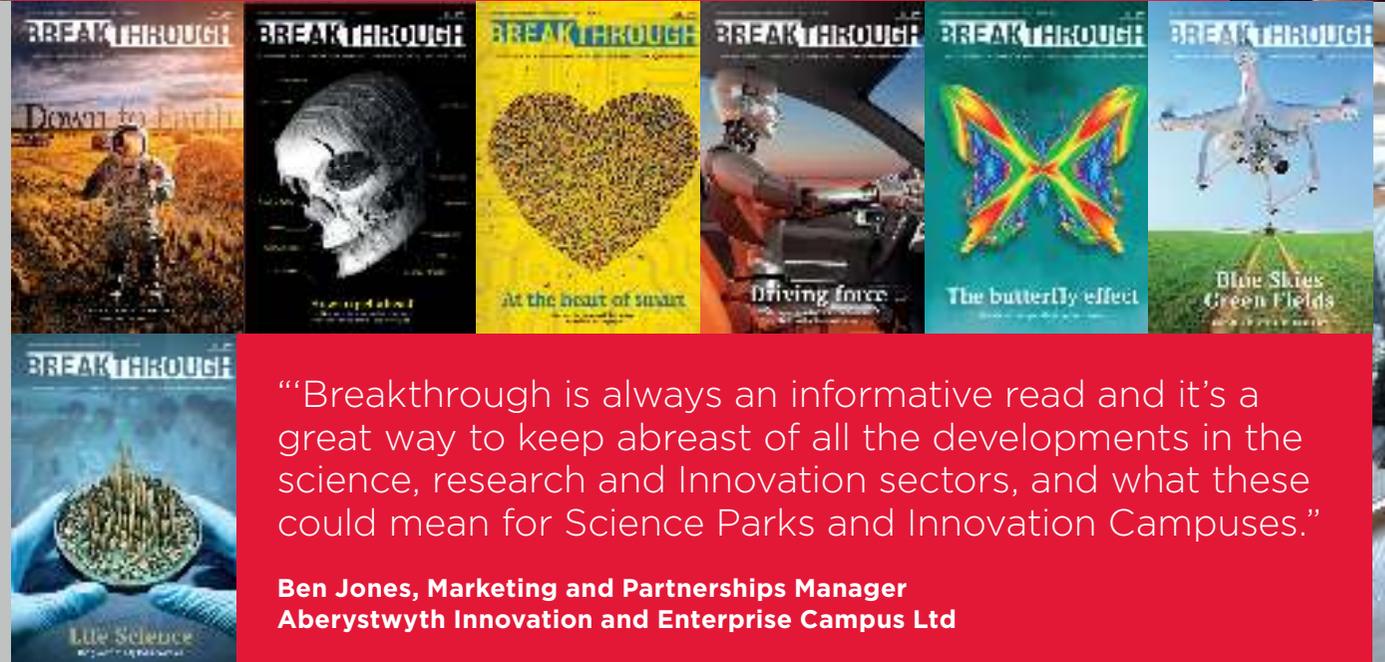
Breakthrough Magazine provides a wealth of very topical and informative reads. Breakthrough never fails to disappoint and always provides stories of great relevance for anyone, however connected with Science Parks, definitely a must read magazine for all who are, or are considering, working with this sector. My diary is all the fuller because of follow-up connections from Breakthrough articles, it has certainly opened conversations which I have no doubt will help us move forward at Norwich Research Park.

**David Parfrey, Executive Chair  
Norwich Research Park**



“I’ve been a long standing member of UKSPA and believe in its principles of introducing and encouraging collaboration between Science Park managers. This has helped to develop and share good practices that have proven very valuable.”

**Roz Bird, Commercial Director  
MEPC Silverstone Park**



“Breakthrough is always an informative read and it’s a great way to keep abreast of all the developments in the science, research and Innovation sectors, and what these could mean for Science Parks and Innovation Campuses.”

**Ben Jones, Marketing and Partnerships Manager  
Aberystwyth Innovation and Enterprise Campus Ltd**





“The UKSPA conference brought together leading practitioners in advancing Innovation and enterprise for peer to peer learning that was hugely informative and a must attend. We look forward to the next one’

**Jonathan Burroughs**  
**Creative Places**



Being a member of UKSPA has been invaluable for the University of Glasgow Clinical Innovation Zone. UKSPA actively promotes our unique location, emphasising the opportunity for tenant companies to thrive within a multidisciplinary environment. UKSPA has also facilitated meetings and events providing excellent networking opportunities which highlight the latest developments from around the world.

**Dr Ruth McLaughlin**  
**College Innovation Manager - Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences**  
**University of Glasgow**



“I very much enjoyed the UKSPA conference and how sincerely impressed I was with the sheer scale and organisation of it... it was epic!! Many thanks for all you and your colleagues do for UKSPA and “us members”, it is greatly appreciated. Well done for a great result.”

**Martin Sylvester**  
**The Churchmanor Estates Company**



## UKSPA BOARD AND EXECUTIVE

### UKSPA BOARD

The strategic direction of UKSPA is directed by an elected board of experienced members to ensure that UKSPA is a member led organisation. The Board reflects the wider membership and provide advice and guidance to the UKSPA Executive Team.

### EXECUTIVE TEAM

The staff of the Association operate from offices at Chesterford Research Park near Cambridge.

### IRELAND

The Association has a number of Innovation locations from Ireland in membership. This provides real opportunities to develop links, relationships and collaborative opportunities between Irish and UK Innovation locations.

### DEVOLVED ADMINISTRATION GROUPS

Two groups have been established to provide input into UKSPA from the UK's devolved administrations. The long established UKSPA Scotland group has been joined

by an UKSPA Wales Group. Both Interest Groups ensure that UKSPA is a truly UK wide Association.

UKSPA also has a number of members in Northern Ireland so that there is a fully inclusive approach allowing access to UKSPA resources and activities – As part of UKSPA's event calendar recent meetings have been held in Belfast, Edinburgh and Swansea with more to follow!

### A TRUSTED ADVISOR

*“The network and connections that we have made through UKSPA have been key to informing our thinking on best practice in the development of the new Thames Valley Science Park. Just as significant have been the connections to the UKSPA network with a wealth of advice, lessons learned elsewhere and contacts. What’s great about the UKSPA network is that there is no rivalry or competitiveness between Parks and information and advice is shared very openly.”*

**David Gillham, Executive Director  
Thames Valley Science Park**

## RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

UKSPA members have access to a comprehensive resource library. UKSPA frequently request information from members to assist others with specific strategic issues or operational challenges.

### MEMBER RESEARCH

UKSPA is increasing its activity in research to gather the evidence that demonstrates the impact made by members.

Members have access to the full results of UKSPA research as well as access to a range of resources including the individual and regional research that is being carried out by UKSPA members.

### OTHER RESEARCH INCLUDES:

#### Salary Research

UKSPA members will benefit from the next UKSPA salary survey which helps Members to compare by providing a confidential overview of salaries and benefits.

### Governance Research

The sector is changing. Being able to understand the new investment and ownership models for the UK is part of the survey analysis undertaken by UKSPA.

### KEY STATISTICS: A GROWING NETWORK

#### Membership growth

From the eight pioneering member who formed UKSPA in the mid 1980's the Association has over 130 locations in membership alongside 35 business affiliate members.

Increasing numbers attending now ensures that around 150 people participate in regular meetings.

Over  
**700**

people attended each of the national conferences held in 2017 and 2019.



## Innovation Places

UKSPA MEMBER SURVEY  
2018-2019

Research and Digital Partners



**UKSPA,  
Garden Cottage,  
Chesterford Research Park,  
Saffron Walden,  
Essex,  
CB10 1XL**

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