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UKSPA AUTUMN CONFERENCE

19th & 20th November 2026

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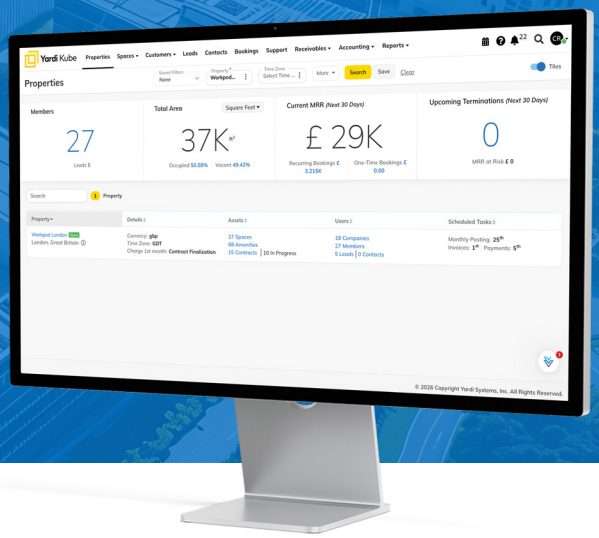

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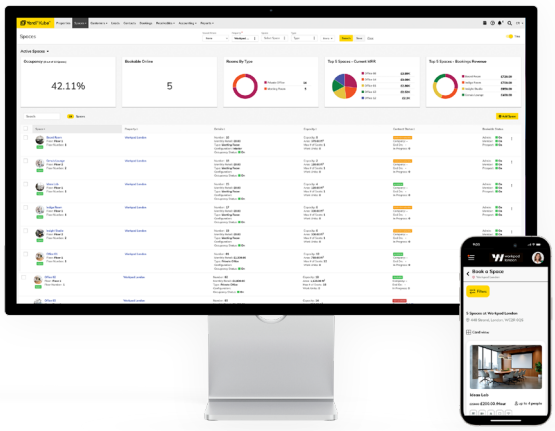

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UKSPA

University of Nottingham Innovation Park

UKSPA Autumn Conference

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UKSPA Autumn Conference

Thursday 19th November

Session	Time		Location: Atrium
	08.00		Exhibitor Arrival & Set up
	10.00		Delegate Arrival & Registration
			Location: Conference Room 1
Session 1	10.45	**Welcome from our hosts**	Alice Cooper-Reeve CEO, University of Nottingham Innovation Park
	11.00	**UKSPA Welcome**	Roz Bird CEO, Anglia Innovation Partnership LLP & Chair, UKSPA Ruth Hall CEO, UKSPA
	11.30	**Evidence Base & Sector Definition:** Evidencing the value & purpose of your place	Giles Harridge Director, End Game in Mind/Stratumise James Akrigg Director, End Game in Mind/Stratumise
	11.45	**Keynote**	Justine Fosh Group Chief Executive Officer, Cogent Skills
	12.05	**Keynote**	Jane Gate MBE, Executive Director, AIRTO
Lunch	**12.30**		**Location: Atrium**
Session	**Time**		**Location: Conference Room 1**
Session 2	13.30	**Panel - The Future of Innovation Clusters:** Place, Policy, and Growth	Fiona Tuck Director-Sectors, Clusters and Innovation, Metrodynamics Rt. Hon. Lord Andrew Lansley Roz Bird CEO Anglia Innovation Partnership LLP & Chair, UKSPA Ralph Wilkins Regional Engagement Lead, UK Defence Innovation
	14.15	**Panel - Nottingham and the East Midlands:** Regional Innovation in Practice	Helen Turner Director, Midlands Innovation & Representative of Midlands Mindforge Elizabeth Hufton Major Research & KE Programme Manager, Life Sciences University of Nottingham Megan Powell Vreeswijk, CEO, Marketing Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Miranda Knaggs Corporate Development Director, Pioneer Group
Break	**15.00**		**Refreshments and Exhibitor Marketplace: Atrium**
Session 3 - **Tours**	15.30		1. ZCIC & Hybrid Propulsion Centre 2. University of Nottingham Innovation Park Community
Day 1 Finish	17.00		
Drinks Reception	**18.30**		**Location: Atrium**
Dinner	**19.15**		**Location: Spokes Restaurant**
			Seated 19.15, dinner served 19.30. Dress Code: Business Casual

UKSPA Autumn Conference

Friday 20th November

	Time		Location: Conference Room 2
	08.00 - 09.00		UKSPA Regional Group, Chair's Meeting
Session	**Time**		**Refreshments and Exhibitor Marketplace: Atrium**
Delegate Arrival	08.30		
Session 4 - **Tours**	09.00		1. Advanced Manufacturing Building 2. University of Nottingham Innovation Park Community
Break	**10.30**		**Refreshments and Exhibitor Marketplace: Atrium**
Session 5	11.00	**Panel - Spinning Out to Scaling Up:** Converting Research Excellence into Growth	George Rice Director of Knowledge Exchange & Business Engagement, University of Nottingham Henner Wapenhans Professor of Innovation, University of Nottingham & CEO of HPDrive Technologies Ltd Mark Callender Research Partner, Bidwells Henry Whorwood Managing Director, Beauhurst Insights
UKSPA OIS Discovery	11.45	**Building a UK Evidence Base and Sector Definition:** The Results	Giles Harridge Director, End Game in Mind/Stratumise James Akrigg Director, End Game in Mind/Stratumise
Closing Keynote	12.05		Alex Favier Global Campaign Director of Invest in UK University R&D – Midlands, Midlands Innovation
Closing Remarks	12.25		Roz Bird CEO Anglia Innovation Partnership LLP & Chair, UKSPA
Lunch	**12.30**		**Location: Atrium**
Conference Close	13.30		

UKSPA

University of Nottingham Innovation Park

UKSPA Autumn Conference

Drinks Reception and Conference Dinner Sponsored by Yardi

Thursday 19th November

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Kindly sponsored by Yardi, The Drinks Reception and Conference Dinner will take place at the Jubilee Campus Hotel, Jubilee Campus, Triumph Road, Jubilee Conference Centre, Nottingham, NG7 2TU on Thursday 19th November.

Drinks Reception 18.30

Conference Dinner 19.30

Dress Code: Business Attire



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Directions

Parking

The conference will be held at: The Jubilee Hotel & Conferences, Triumph Road, Nottingham, NG7 2TU.

The map of the Jubilee Campus highlights your parking options. Please review this information careful as the campus is monitored by ANPR cameras and tickets will be issued automatically.

The main parking for the conference is in front of the hotel & conference centre (Building 50) in the area highlighted by the red box. There are additional visitor car parks for when the hotel & conference centre car park is full. These are marked by the blue boxes and denoted with 'VP' on the map.

If both the hotel and visitor car parks are full, the connecting roads (marked by the green lines on the map) do have car parking along them which can be used. These are limited.

Important Information - Pre registration of vehicle required

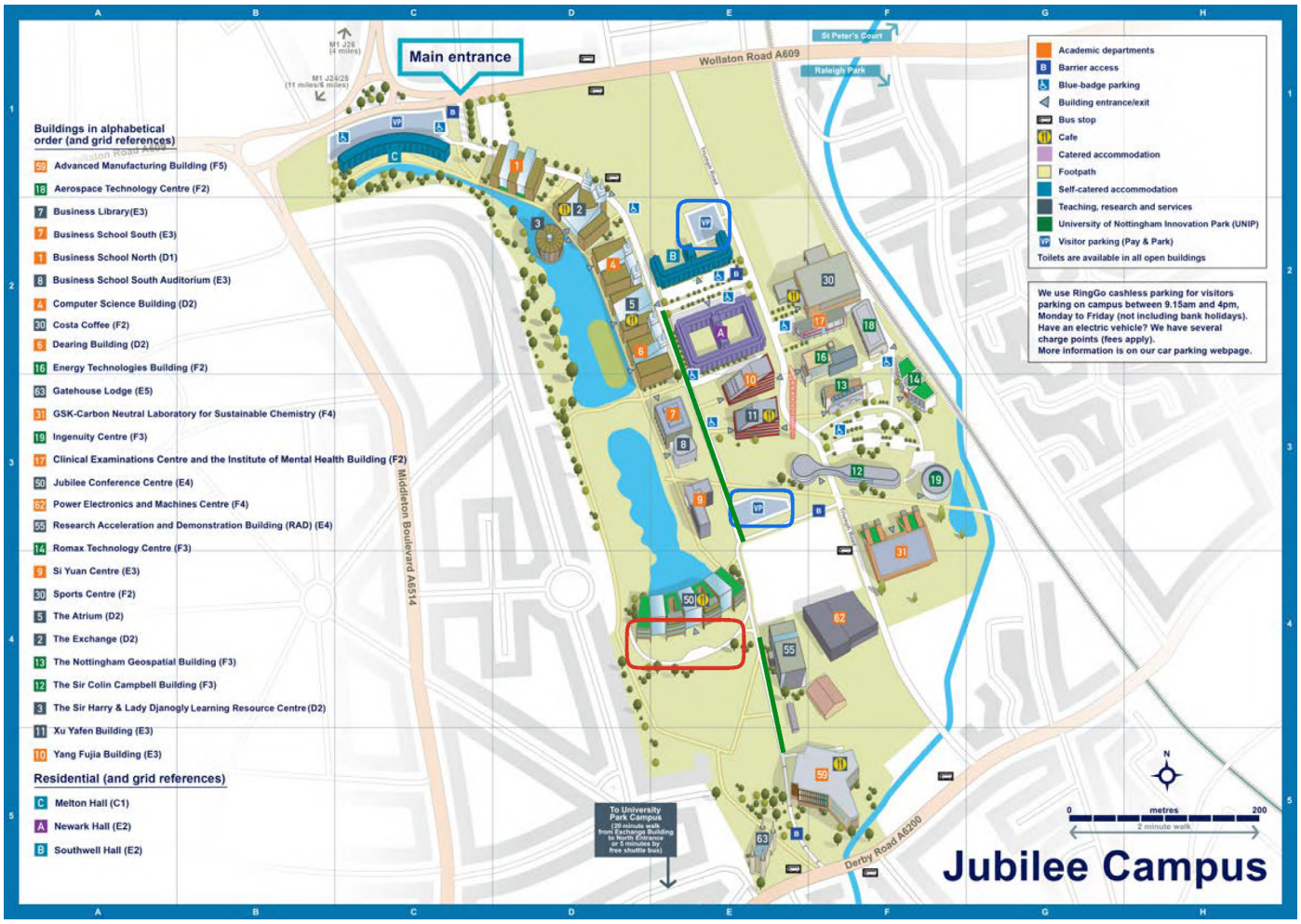
You must register your car before coming to campus and pay a £6 per day fee at the hotel & conference centre upon arrival. Please register your car via this link: Car Parking Registration.

When you arrive at the conference, you must pay the £6 per day charge at reception for the registration process to be completed. This fee is only payable via card. To make your arrival as smooth as possible, we recommend allowing extra time to park and complete the registration process before the event begins.

Do not park in the University of Nottingham Innovation Park Car Park between Building 12 and 13. This is for tenants only operated on ANPR linked permits; you will receive a parking fine even if you pay for parking at the hotel & conference centre.

There is good public transport links and we strongly advise avoiding bringing and parking a car over the two days if you can utilise public transport. For further travel information, please see the University's website: **Click Here**

Conference Map



Click here for more details of campus.

UKSPA

University of Nottingham Innovation Park

UKSPA Autumn Conference

About our Hosts - University of Nottingham Innovation Park

The University of Nottingham Innovation Park (UNIP) is delighted to host the UKSPA Autumn Conference on 19th and 20th November 2026.

The University anchored innovation campus was built to bring world leading research together with high growth businesses. What makes Jubilee distinctive is the alignment with the UK's industrial strategy. Sectors like aerospace, zero carbon propulsion, fusion, defence, digital and advanced manufacturing all sit at the heart of what happens at the Innovation Park.

UNIP is anchored by a Russell Group research powerhouse, the University of Nottingham, and is geared toward creating regional opportunity, economic impact, and knowledge driven growth.

UNIP's ecosystem has a very clear focus: engineering and technology innovation. To curate a complementary mix of gateway-tested tenants who share similar technology platforms, challenges, funding routes, and infrastructure needs. That shared focus is intentional; it creates density, collaboration, and a resilient environment for innovation.

One of UNIP's greatest assets is the breadth and depth of the University's research strengths. Across engineering, technology, and business, they have facilities and expertise to support innovation, from the recently opened Hybrid Propulsion Centre and Zero carbon Innovation Centre to the Advanced Manufacturing Building and world class computer science labs. You'll get the opportunity to tour some of these facilities over the two days. We've also got the business ecosystem: Nottingham University Business School, the Ingenuity Lab, and Executive Education. All of this is underpinned by strong research commercialisation through Nottingham Technology Ventures.

UNIP's ecosystem is delivering measurable economic value, having seen businesses secure £8 million in Innovate UK funding and attract £14 million in private investment. The Park is seeing around 5% annual growth across the community, and strong survival rates for early-stage companies. They are growing innovation-active businesses, increasing R&D intensity, and supporting companies as they begin exporting and entering international markets. The opportunity is large and they are continuing to build a much broader scheme of activity to capture it.

UNIP's sister subsidiary of the University, Nottingham Venues, are hosting the conference in their Jubilee Hotel & Conference Centre. The centre, and wider campus, is an outstanding example of brownfield regeneration, sustainability, low energy design and innovative architecture. The buildings use natural materials such as cedar redwood cladding and recycled newspaper insulation. There are a series of man-made lakes that provide a valuable wildlife habitat, contribute to heating and cooling of buildings, and give the centre a wonderful waterfront setting.



UKSPA Autumn Conference Tours

Hybrid Propulsion and the Zero Carbon Innovation Centres

Thursday 19th November 15:30 – 17:00

The University of Nottingham has opened the new Hybrid Propulsion Systems Building featuring the latest technology in cryogenic testing, alternative-fuel engines, altitude facilities and advanced manufacturing to help move propulsion technologies towards industrial use.

Alongside this facility, the University in partnership with East Midlands Freeport, Research England, and Loughborough University, has opened the Zero Carbon Innovation Centre. The Centre delivers innovation in transport technology, green hydrogen production, and power solutions for industry. At the Centre, partners benefit from research projects as well as commercially contracted testing and R&D programmes. They can co-locate to the centre to collaborate with researchers and have access to incubator labs and office space.

There will be two tour groups in the 1 hour 30-minute slot of up to a maximum of 20 people each group.

Group 1 starts at 15:30 and will return by 16:15. Maximum of 20 delegates per group

Group 2 starts on the return of Group 1 and is back by 17:00. Maximum of 20 delegates per group. Thereafter walking back to the onsite hotel.

University of Nottingham Innovation Park (UNIP) Community

This walking tour will take you through the campus to see the Sir Colin Campbell Building, Enterprise Building, and get to meet one of hosts tenants, Onyx Insight, in the Ingenuity Centre.

Since 2008, Onyx have been monitoring more wind turbines around the world than any other independent service provider – using award-winning sensing technology, predictive maintenance, and analytics software. All of which has been designed to make owning and operating wind farms easier and more profitable.

One group of up to 60 people will do a walking tour of UNIP's buildings on the way to the Ingenuity Centre to hear from Onyx, one of the hosts tenants. Thereafter walking back to the on-site hotel.



UKSPA Autumn Conference Tours

Advanced Manufacturing Building

Friday 20th November 09:00 – 10:30

This nationally significant research centre consolidates the University's manufacturing science and technology capabilities, expertise, and industrial support. The AMB is home to the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing (IfAM), with world-class research and teaching facilities for design, manufacturing, assembly and metrology, measurement, testing and modelling.

IfAM encompasses a multidisciplinary team of established academics in their respective fields in the UK and at our campuses in Malaysia and China. Scientific research at the Institute underpins many high impact innovations in key sectors, such as aerospace, automotive, food, biomedical, energy generation, chemical products and digital manufacturing.

Two tour groups in the 1 Hour 30 Minute slot of up to a maximum of 20 people each per group.

Group 1 starts at 09:00 and return by 09:45,

Group 2 starts on the return of Group 1

University of Nottingham Innovation Park (UNIP) Community

One group of up to 60 people will do a walking tour of UNIP's buildings on the way to the Ingenuity Centre to hear from Onyx, one of the hosts tenants.



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Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Alice Cooper-Reeve, Chief Executive Officer, University of Nottingham Innovation Park



Alice has been in the innovation sector since 2016, becoming CEO of the University of Nottingham Innovation Park (UNIP) in 2024.

By enhancing the innovation character of UNIP, Alice is driving greater commercialisation, economic growth, and innovation opportunities across the community.

Giles Harridge - Director, End Game In Mind / Stratumise



Giles Harridge is an exit specialist at End Game in Mind, a Manchester advisory firm whose founders have all built and sold companies. With James Akrigg he is developing Stratumise, a platform that maps what a place is for and who makes it work. The OIS Discovery, a short diagnostic tool, aims to build for UKSPA a UK-wide picture of how innovation spaces operate.

For thirty years he has worked where data meets decisions: what shoppers actually buy (back in 1996 with the launch of Sainsbury's loyalty card), how traffic flows (in the early 2000s - with emerging GPS and mapping tools), and subsequently using data in lending responsibly to underserved consumers. A music graduate and former conductor, he learned to lead a group when the only authority is the quality of what you make together."

James Akrigg - Director, End Game In Mind / Stratumise



James Akrigg is a technology leader, adviser and speaker with a career spanning four decades. He is Founder and CTO of Cloudy Software and Co-founder of End Game, helping founders build, grow and prepare their businesses for successful exits. Previously Microsoft's Head of Technology for Partners, James brings extensive experience in software development, enterprise technology and business innovation. Today, he helps organisations apply AI and modern applications to solve practical challenges, develop digital products (including Stratumise) and accelerate growth. His speaking and advisory work makes complex technology accessible, helping business leaders understand its potential and turn emerging opportunities into tangible results.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Justine Fosh – Group Chief Executive Officer, Cogent Skills



As Group Chief Executive Officer of Cogent Skills, Justine is committed to ensuring science industry employers can access the workforce skills needed for success. With over 20 years' experience in skills development, she is a passionate advocate for vocational and technical education as a means of opening up opportunities for all.

Under Justine's stewardship, Cogent Skills has played a central role in delivering transformational skills strategies across the nuclear, life sciences and hydrogen sectors, setting out long-term, cross-sector approaches to securing the talent pipelines needed for national growth and innovation.

In 2023, Justine co-founded the Hydrogen Skills Alliance to address the skills challenges of the UK's clean energy transition. She also sits on the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) Hydrogen Delivery Council's Jobs, Skills and Supply Chain Working Group.

Justine regularly represents employer views on influential regional, national and devolved Government policy advisory groups, helping shape skills policy across the life sciences, chemical and low carbon industries.

Before joining Cogent Skills, Justine held senior commercial roles in food and drink manufacturing and is a graduate of Strathclyde University. Outside of work, she enjoys playing hockey and walking her dog, and has proudly completed the West Highland Way.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Dr Jane Gate MBE, Executive Director, AIRTO



Jane serves as the Executive Director of AIRTO (the Association of Innovation, Research and Technology Organisations), the body representing the UK's Innovation, Research and Technology sector, fulfilling this role at the National Physical Laboratory since 2011, and since 2021, at the Net Zero Technology Centre.

Jane has a life sciences background. She is a graduate of the University of Reading and gained a PhD in animal physiology (also from Reading University) in the field of neonatal thermoregulation. She began her working life at the Institute for Animal Health and went on to hold a range of management and leadership roles at King's College London, within the health schools, and within the university's research commercialisation and research support division, King's Business Ltd, where she was Director of Business Development. During her 13 years at King's, Jane was involved with a number of collaborative ventures including Innovation China UK, and London Genetics Ltd, and served as a non-executive Director of Simulstrat Ltd, a wargaming spin-out company which was acquired by Deloitte in 2010.

Jane serves as a Trustee of the Board of the Daphne Jackson Trust, the UK's leading organisation dedicated to realising the potential of returners to research careers. She is Deputy Chair of the Trust and is the Chair of the Trust's Finance and General Purposes Committee, Chair of the Special Discretionary Fund Committee, and serves on the Trust's Awards Assessment Panel and Awards Strategy Committee.

She was awarded a Member of the Order of the British Empire, MBE, in the King's Birthday Honours List in 2026 for her services to science and the innovation ecosystem.

Fiona Tuck, Director - Sectors, Clusters and Innovation, Metro Dynamics

Fiona leads Metro Dynamics' work on sectors, clusters and innovation, helping places and institutions turn their economic strengths into sustainable growth.



With over 20 years' experience in economic development, she advises local and national organisations on innovation ecosystems, sector development and the partnerships needed to translate ambition into delivery. Her recent work includes supporting UKRI, the Royal Academy of Engineering, universities and combined authorities on place-based innovation and cluster development. Fiona is also a Non-Executive Director of LYVA Labs and has recently led national conversations on how the UK can turn innovation ambition into economic outcomes.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Rt. Hon. Lord Andrew Lansley



Rt. Hon. Lord Andrew Lansley is a member of the UK House of Lords, having been appointed in 2015 following an 18-year career in the House of Commons. During his time in government, he served for four years in the Cabinet as a senior member of the UK Government, including as Secretary of State for Health, where he was responsible for the National Health Service and public health in England, overseeing a budget of approximately £105 billion. He subsequently served as Leader of the House of Commons.

Earlier in his career, Rt. Hon. Lord Andrew Lansley played a key role at the heart of government policy and political strategy. He was Director of Research for Margaret Thatcher from 1989 to 1990 and for Prime Minister John Major from 1990 to 1995, contributing to the development of policy during a pivotal period in UK politics. Following the 1992 General Election victory, his influence in shaping government policy was particularly significant. He was appointed a Privy Councillor in 2010.

Before entering Parliament, Rt.Hon Lord Andrew Lansley built a strong foundation in business and public policy, serving as Deputy Director-General of the British Chambers of Commerce and as a senior official in the Department of Trade and Industry.

His public service has been recognised through numerous honours. He was awarded a CBE in 1995, appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire in 2016, and in 2025 received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, from the Emperor of Japan.

Rt.Hon Lord Andrew Lansley currently serves as Strategic Counsel at LOW Associates, where he provides insight on policy, regulation, and international affairs. He brings to his work a wealth of experience across government, business, and global engagement.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Roz Bird, Chief Executive, Anglia Innovation Partnership LLP



A Chartered Surveyor, and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, Roz joined Norwich Research Park, in May 2022, as Chief Executive Officer for the campus management company Anglia Innovation Partnership (AIP).

At AIP Roz leads the team that has established the campus-wide enterprise programme, new engagement opportunities with multinationals and worked with the AIP Board to agree a real estate investment partnership with investor Vengrove. As a result, Vengrove has invested in the first privately funded, speculative laboratory and office building (63,000 sq ft) which is due to complete in Q1 2027.

Prior to joining AIP LLP, Roz had a very successful career managing urban regeneration projects and science parks, for MEPC Ltd, in Cambridge, Silverstone, Milton Keynes and Bristol. During that time, she also helped to found Silverstone Technology Cluster and pioneered the Ox-Cam Arc as the UK's first 'supercluster'.

Previously, Roz was Business Development Manager for the UK Science Park Association (UKSPA). In November 2023 Roz was elected to the UKSPA Board and became Interim Chair in July 2026. Roz was Co-ordinator for Women in IASP (International Association of Science Parks) from 2024 until 2026, her leadership helped reinforce what makes Women in IASP so valuable, a friendly, open community where members feel comfortable sharing their experiences. In 2025 Roz joined the national panel for the UKRI Local Innovation Partnership Fund.

Ralph Wilkins, Regional Engagement Lead, UK Defence Innovation



Ralph's career began running organised crime investigations before moving into the development of novel technology for law enforcement and national security. After 8 years in defence, Ralph now leads teams in the MOD to find next generation technology for defence & national security.

Ralph also has responsibility for the Regional Defence & Security Clusters that allow defence to draw on the expertise of industry and academia and extend UKDI's reach into all corners of UK industry.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Dr. Helen Turner - Director, Midlands Innovation & Representative of Midlands Mindforge



Helen Turner is Director of Midlands Innovation, a partnership of eight research intensive Midlands universities – Aston University, University of Birmingham, Cranfield University, Keele University, University of Leicester, Loughborough University, University of Nottingham and University of Warwick.

A materials scientist by background, she leads major collaborative programmes including Forging Ahead and AI.RDN+, and has driven initiatives such as Midlands Mindforge, the region's university-affiliated investment fund, and the Invest in UK University R&D – Midlands Campaign, strengthening skills, investment and innovation capacity across the region and supporting economic growth and global competitiveness.

Elizabeth Hufton, Major Research and Knowledge Exchange Programme Manager- Life Sciences, University of Nottingham



Elizabeth works in the Innovation Clusters team in Research and Innovation at UoN. She has worked in Higher Education for 10 years. In January 2016 she joined the University of Nottingham as Project Manager of an EPSRC Programme Grant in Next Generation Biomaterials Discovery in the School of Pharmacy. In November 2018 Elizabeth joined the Precision Imaging Beacon of Excellence as the Research Development Manager supporting funding applications. In June 2021 she started as Senior Research Manager in the Faculty of Science coordinating a pipeline of funding applications across Chemistry and Physics. Prior to working in Higher Education I worked as a consultant research scientist in industry, working primarily on Innovate UK projects.

Event Speakers - Thursday 19th November

Megan Powell Vreeswijk, CEO, Marketing Nottingham & Nottinghamshire



Megan is the CEO of Marketing Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, a position which she has held since January 2024. In a business career spanning over two decades, Megan has served as Head of Enterprise at Nottingham Trent University, Senior IP and Commercialisation Officer at Loughborough University, Creative Economy Facilitator for the British Council and Creative Economy Associate for NESTA.

She is on the Trading board for Nottingham Playhouse and a Trustee for the 1862 Heritage & a Trustee at Nottingham Roosevelt Memorial Travelling Scholarship.

In addition to this, Megan recently served as Vice-Chair of the It's in Nottingham, and was the Vice President of Enterprise Educators UK, the leading membership network for those in enterprise education.

Megan has a passion for supporting businesses and organisations locally and is committed to making Nottingham and Nottinghamshire a great place to live, work, invest and visit.

Miranda Knaggs, Corporate Development Director, Pioneer Group



Miranda Knaggs is the Head of Ecosystems and Communities at Pioneer Group, where she plays a pivotal role in driving the growth of the UK's life sciences sector. With over twenty years of experience managing bioincubators and innovation ecosystems, Miranda excels at building thriving clusters that connect academic excellence, investment, and commercial innovators.

Her extensive background includes serving as CEO of Stevenage Bioscience Catalyst and Chair of the UK Bioincubators Forum. Notably, her professional journey began right here in Nottingham at BioCity in 2005.

Event Speakers - Friday 20th November

George Rice, Director of Knowledge Exchange & Business Engagement at the University of Nottingham



George Rice is the Director of Knowledge Exchange and Business Engagement at the University of Nottingham and Chair of the University of Nottingham Innovation Park. George has led the significant growth in the Nottingham spin-out portfolio to a current 44 active companies (31 launched in the last 7 years). This growth and portfolio management is supported by an integrated spin-out team & Nottingham Technology Ventures & who manage the portfolio and also advise the University on equity investments from two annually renewing investment funds.

With more than 20 years of knowledge exchange experience George is also responsible for University corporate partnerships for R&D, Innovation & Commercialisation, academic consultancy support and business engagement.

Henner Wapenhans, Professor of Innovation, University of Nottingham & CEO of HPDrive Technologies



Henner is Professor of Innovation, at the University of Nottingham. His work focuses on developing high impact areas of zero carbon research and working with industry and other stakeholders to accelerate their application. Since May 2026 he is also CEO of HPDrive Technologies, a spin-out founded through a collaboration between GKN Aerospace and UoN developing advanced cryogenic electrical machines. Prior to 2021, Henner had a 25-year career with Rolls-Royce where he held several engineer and business leadership roles, among them Director of Technology Strategy and Chief Executive of Data Systems & Solutions. Henner has worked in the UK, USA and in Germany. He received his engineering degree and doctorate from the Technical University of Munich.

Event Speakers - Friday 20th November

Mark Callender - Research Partner, Bidwells



Mark is a Research Partner and has undertaken several consultancy projects as well as contributing to Bidwell's regular market publications.

Prior to joining Bidwells, he was Head of Research at Schroders Real Estate (2006-2023) where he set the top-down market strategy for its UK and European funds and was a member of the investment committee.

Before Schroders Mark was research manager (1990-2001) and then research director (2001-2006) at Investment Property Databank (now part of MSCI), an economist at the Housebuilders Federation (1988-1990) and a researcher at Trade Indemnity plc (1982-1988).

Mark has a degree in Economic & Social History from York University and is a member of the Society of Property Researchers and the Urban Land Institute.

Henry Whorwood, Managing Director, Beauhurst Insights



Henry started and runs Beauhurst Insights. Beauhurst Insights produces research on the UK's economy, with a focus on innovation, investment and growth. He has worked on briefs for clients including the British Business Bank, HM Treasury, and Innovate UK.

Henry is an expert on business finance, entrepreneurship and innovation and regularly gives presentations on market trends at events around the country. He is an advisor to The Entrepreneurs Network, sits on the EISA's Research Committee and is on the advisory board of the APPG for Entrepreneurship. He studied Classics at the University of Oxford.

Event Speakers - Friday 20th November

Alex Favier, Global Campaign Director, Invest in UK University R&D – Midlands, Midlands Innovation



Alex Favier is the Global Campaign Director for the Invest in UK University R&D – Midlands, a trail-blazing initiative formed by a coalition of seventeen universities, regional government and co-funded by the Department for Business, Science, Innovation and Trade (formerly DSIT and DBT) and UKRI. The Programme leverages universities' global connections to attract inward investment into UK R&D and support economic growth.

Alex is also the founding director of Favier Ltd. Founded on more than a decade of global and political affairs experience and an outstanding track record of impact, innovation and creativity for some of the UK's best universities and government agencies, Favier Ltd works with universities, public sector bodies and places to take a more strategic approach to influence management and get more from their stakeholder relations. Working in partnership with a portfolio of leading public affairs agencies, international trade and investment advisers and higher education specialists, Favier Ltd helps organisation shape and deliver their strategic outcomes, from the civic to the global.

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Click here for more information

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Event Partner & Exhibitor

Modern Networks is a specialist digital infrastructure and managed services partner for Science and Innovation Parks. Since 1999, they have delivered digital infrastructure and managed services to more than 2,600 sites nationwide, including 47 science parks and over 700 tenant organisations. These tenants range from early-stage innovators and university spin-outs to established R&D centres and major technology companies, each relying on fast, resilient, and secure digital environments to accelerate their work.

Their portfolio covers resilient connectivity, managed IT services, cybersecurity, Microsoft 365 Copilot enablement, structured networks, and 24/7 service desk support tailored specifically for multi-tenant scientific and technical settings. Science and Innovation Parks rely on robust digital foundations to power research workflows, instrument connectivity, and data-intensive operations. They help park operators minimise digital risk, improve uptime, and deliver efficient onboarding experiences that strengthen productivity and long-term tenant satisfaction.

With extensive experience across complex innovation ecosystems, they provide far more than traditional IT or broadband services. Their focus is on strengthening network resilience, enhancing operational efficiency, and enabling the digital capabilities essential for scientific progress. They work closely with park operators, universities, and managing agents to ensure technology becomes a catalyst for innovation, helping attract, retain, and enable high-value tenants.

As a Jisc partner, Modern Networks also enables eligible customers to access sector-wide digital services, including connectivity to the high-performance Janet Network for research and education collaboration.

To discuss the digital needs of your Science and Innovation Park, contact Modern Networks:

Email: sales@modern-networks.co.uk,

Telephone: 01462 426500.

Click here for more information

Event Partners

RIDGE

Event Partner & Exhibitor

Ridge is a built environment consultancy with over 1,600 people across 16 UK locations. Since 1946, they have combined design brilliance with practical delivery, helping clients turn complex briefs into buildings and infrastructure that perform in the real world.

Their architects, engineers, project and cost managers, surveyors, planners and sustainability specialists sit side by side, so ideas are tested early and advice is joined up. For science and research, that means environments designed for precision, performance and discovery: adaptable facilities that evolve with research priorities, and sustainability delivered without compromising scientific integrity. Clients can work with a single specialist or a fully integrated team, from small refurbishments to billion-pound developments, with senior partners accountable for the outcome.

They design and deliver everything from wet and dry laboratories and clean rooms to write-up spaces, workshops, small-scale manufacturing units and campus masterplans. That work supports cutting-edge research in life and physical sciences, AI/genome technology, quantum and deep tech. Their teams also draw on experience in advanced manufacturing, Formula One, higher education, automotive and aerospace, bringing a broader perspective and ingenuity to every project.

With a strong presence in the UK's science hubs and partnerships with leading global organisations, they combine national capability with local focus. Whether reimagining existing assets or planning new science campuses, their teams help clients create environments that inspire discovery and improve lives.

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Event Partners

Spacewell

Event Partner & Exhibitor

Spacewell offers software solutions that enable organizations to improve the performance of their building portfolios. Their core purpose is to make buildings work harder for their occupants by unlocking the power of building data. Serving more than 2,000 customers across over 60 countries, they help organizations make smarter decisions about space, energy and assets.

Their suite brings together three complementary solutions:

Spacewell Workplace helps organizations understand how their offices are used, optimize space and support hybrid working. Desk and room booking, occupancy insights and workplace services help improve the employee experience while supporting informed real estate decisions.

Spacewell Energy provides visibility into energy consumption, costs and carbon emissions. It helps teams identify inefficiencies, prioritize improvements and track measurable savings across their building portfolios.

Spacewell Asset helps organizations manage technical assets, maintenance and facility services. By supporting planned maintenance, compliance and asset lifecycle management, it helps teams improve reliability and control operational costs.

Spacewell is part of the publicly listed Nemetschek Group, a global software provider supporting the entire building lifecycle, from design and construction to operations. This places their building operations expertise within a wider group dedicated to the digital transformation of the built environment.

With more than 35 years of experience in facilities and workplace management, they help customers turn data into practical improvements: reducing costs, advancing sustainability and creating buildings that better serve the people who use them.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Avidity Science

A trusted partner to the global research community providing innovative water purification and delivery systems, Avidity Science was founded in 1969 and acquired by ATS in 2023.

Avidity Science in the UK is also an exclusive distributor for laboratory equipment, including NuAire CO 2 Incubators and Biological Safety Cabinets, plus Systec autoclaves and culture media preparation.

Supporting their product portfolio is our Avidity Science service team, comprising 25 field-based service engineers, fully trained to install, commission, train and maintain their systems for their customers.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Laing O'Rourke

Laing O'Rourke is the UK's largest privately owned engineering and construction company and delivers state-of-the-art infrastructure and buildings projects for clients in the UK, Middle East and Australia.

In the UK, they have a unique operating model based on digital design and advanced manufacturing technologies and they deliver their projects via our integrated supply chain of specialist in-house businesses. This increases alignment and reduces risk during the construction programme – providing the certainty clients and investors want.

Laing O'Rourke manufactures a wide range of components for projects at their UK factories in the Midlands. The £200m Laing O'Rourke Centre of Excellence for Modern Construction is Europe's most advanced facility for manufactured concrete products, and has supplied high quality components to more than 300 UK buildings and infrastructure projects.

They have a proven track record in the science, technology and research sector, delivering pioneering, award-winning facilities for globally renowned institutions. Enabled by their offsite manufacturing capabilities and ongoing research and development – and delivered through our integrated delivery model – they have delivered world-class, highly complex facilities, such as the Francis Crick Institute in London.

Their teams have the expertise in delivering to the precise tolerances required by the sector, along with design and engineering solutions that provide creative spaces and workplaces for some of the greatest minds to solve today's challenges. This, combined with their unique operating model and commitment to innovation and excellence, enables them to stay true to their purpose: to push the boundaries of what's possible in service of humanity.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Lambert Smith Hampton

Lambert Smith Hampton (LSH) is one of the UK and Ireland's leading and most forward thinking property consultancies, combining deep local market knowledge with the strength of a robust network of over 30 offices in over 15 regions with more than 1,000 employees.

As specialists in Science, Innovation, Engineering, and Technology Parks, they provide fully integrated property solutions designed for the unique needs of innovation led environments. Their expertise spans the entire property lifecycle, including advisory, planning, building surveying, research, funding, investment, development, management, sustainability, valuation, and disposal.

They are committed to helping clients shape the built environment with care, intelligence, and responsibility.

The LSH Commercial Property Management team works collaboratively and maintains close communication with all specialist teams across the business, ensuring their clients receive the most comprehensive and informed advice to support clients' wider commercial needs.

If you would like to discuss your Science, Innovation, Engineering or Technology Park management requirements, their dedicated team would be delighted to help:

Andrew Nolan – Regional Head & Life Sciences Lead (London), Commercial Property Management anolan@lsh.co.uk

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Merrick & Company

Drawing on more than 30 years of experience and involvement in £1.5bn of life science infrastructure projects, Merrick & Company (Merrick) believes the fastest path to scientific innovation begins long before a facility opens its doors. Unlike traditional architecture, engineering, and construction firms, Merrick leverages an in-house science and technology (S&T) team to expedite operational readiness. By integrating S&T professionals with architects and engineers from design inception, Merrick identifies and mitigates commissioning, workflow, facility transition, and compliance challenges before a facility is constructed, reducing the likelihood of costly downstream deficiencies, redesign efforts, and startup delays. Their goal is to protect client investments through reliable and future-proof design and operational solutions that accelerate the transition between construction and scientific productivity.

Whether you are developing a new research facility, modernising aging infrastructure, or planning for the next generation of laboratory technology, success will be defined by how quickly these facilities become productive environments for discovery and innovation.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

ra Information Systems

CLARITY CORE

WORKSPACE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Powered by Information Systems

With over 37 years of experience, RA Information Systems is a leading provider of IT and software solutions for the science, research and innovation sectors. Specialising in software development, IT networks, data security, AV, telecoms and infrastructure services, they deliver tailored solutions for multi-occupancy sites and their tenants across the UK.

Their flagship platform, CLARITY CORE, is an all-in-one workspace, tenant and business management solution. Designed to simplify operations and enhance customer experience, CLARITY CORE brings together workspace management, financial management, reporting and tenant services within a single, connected solution.

The platform empowers organisations to monitor, analyse and optimise occupancy, utilisation and business performance through real-time data and reporting. Extending these capabilities, the Clarity Tenant Suite delivers an integrated tenant and member environment through self-service, with online bookings, visitor management, parcel tracking, communications and connected tenant services, helping create a seamless experience for both operators and occupiers.

Combined with over three decades of sector expertise and supporting technology services, RA Information Systems provides software, services and partnership to help innovation communities grow, collaborate and succeed.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Tecnilabo & Sanber Lab Services

Tecnilabo

Discover your laboratory's potential with Tecnilabo at the UKSPA Autumn Conference. Bringing together BioAir, Labosystem and KW, the laboratory division of the Tecniplast Group delivers integrated solutions designed and manufactured in Italy.

Explore biosafety cabinets, fume cupboards, freezers, incubators and bespoke laboratory furniture, combining innovation, sustainability and reliability.

From initial design to installation and ongoing support, their turnkey approach and dedicated UK team help bring your laboratory vision to life.

Planning a new facility or upgrading your space? Meet Tecnilabo and discover tailored solutions for your next laboratory project.

Click here for more information

Sanber Laboratory Services Ltd

Sanber Lab Services is a leading UK laboratory refurbishment and installation company, with over 30 years of experience delivering high-quality, bespoke laboratory solutions. Working across academic, research, pharmaceutical, industrial and public-sector environments, Sanber provides services from initial design and consultation through to installation, commissioning and validation. Their expertise covers complete turnkey laboratory refurbishments, bespoke laboratory furniture, fume cupboards and LEV systems, as well as mechanical, electrical and specialist laboratory services. With a strong focus on safety, quality, environmental responsibility and customer satisfaction, Sanber works closely with clients to create laboratories that are fit for purpose, future-proofed and tailored to their needs.

Click here for more information

Event Exhibitors

Veolia

Veolia provides solutions for the production of purified water of all grades for scientific and laboratory applications. From small, bench-mounted point-of-use units to complex centralised water systems. Their teams can provide the help, advice, system design and ongoing services support laboratories need to ensure they have a laboratory water system that continuously meets their highly purified water requirements.

Click here for more information