

Party Conferences

Lord Victor Adebowale, Chair of NHS Confederation and Chair of the Midlands Health Inequalities Policy Commission, spoke at a Midlands Engine fringe event at the Conservative conference and set out the current findings of the Health Inequalities Commission to delegates.



The panel at the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator roundtable, Conservative Party Conference

Discussions at the conference focused on opportunities for growth in the Midlands and areas of strength. A fringe event was also hosted by the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator, which is unique and an area in which the Midlands exceeds the Golden Triangle. Political engagement is very high on agenda - we pursue site from ministers and senior officials, but this has been challenging with the rapid turnover of ministers. An alternative strategy would be welcome. It was noted that the Labour Party are showing an increased interest in life sciences.

Visit of Rosalind Campion, Director of the Office for Life Sciences

This event took place on 27 September at Charnwood Campus with the support of Medilink Midlands and to an audience of representatives of businesses and organisations from our region's health and life sciences sectors.

Ms Campion outlined the role of the OLS in supporting the implementation of the Government's Vision for Life Sciences and took part in a conversation with delegates, at which they discussed shared concerns for the onshoring and nearshoring of the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and life sciences supply chain resilience.

Topics also included the need for technical skills especially at the mid/senior levels in the Midlands and the role of innovation, which is a major theme of the Vision for Life Sciences. Also discussed was the regulatory environment and the challenges in getting innovative products to market in the NHS.



The visit of Rosalind Campion to Charnwood Campus

Mental Health and Productivity Pilot

The project has now completed its initial funding period and has entered its extension phase. This phase will provide evidence-based interventions until 31st December 2023, allowing three months for analysis, with a final report in April 2024. An evaluation plan and implementation plan has been developed in agreement with the EHIE policy team and commissioners, which will drive activity for the next 18 months. In parallel to delivery, the MHPP programme team will seek to identify additional funding to continue with the existing and developing novel interventions with a view to developing a sustainable future model after 2024.

The planned visit from Jonathan Marron, Director General, Office for Health Improvement and Disparities at DHSC, has been postponed from the 3 November. A new date is being sought for this event.

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITY

- West Midlands Health Technologies Cluster and University of Warwick will host their second Diagnostics Conference at the University of Warwick on 15 December. Midlands Engine will co-sponsor the event
- We are planning a Life Sciences investment event with Northern Health Science Alliance and Medicity next year. To be held at the Crick Institute in London on March 14th