

SC1 Overview

Messages and Proof Points by Priority Theme



Life Sciences
Innovation District

Our Vision (*What We Aspire To Be*)

To create a transformative life sciences ecosystem in central London dedicated to innovation, creative partnerships and to improve life for our local and global communities.

Our Mission (*What We Do to Fulfil Our Vision*)

Reimagining Innovation & Health Equity

Elevator Pitch – Quick Overview

- SC1 is a Life Sciences Innovation District in south central London that will be a world-recognised home for transformative innovation. Health equity is at the heart of SC1 which will foster public-private partnerships to develop solutions to society's complex health care challenges.
- SC1 brings together a world-renowned university, a charitable foundation, flagship teaching hospitals, local government and community to create a thriving life sciences ecosystem, in an iconic part of London, at the cutting edge of healthcare.
- By enabling collaboration between visionary start-ups, founders, entrepreneurs and partners from the BioPharma, BioTech, Technology, Finance and Business worlds, SC1 will improve the lives of people locally and globally, for generations to come.

SC1 – Who, What & How

- SC1 is anchored by the world-renowned university King's College London and supported by the founding partners of three NHS Foundation Trusts (Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust) the Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation, as well as the Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. This brings together seven committed partners with over a century of healthcare innovation history, and a shared purpose of tackling the lack of health equity locally and globally, to put life sciences at the heart of a major global city.
- SC1 is home to three Innovation Hubs (the BioMedical Hub at the London Bridge Campus, the MedTech Hub at the Westminster Bridge Campus, and the Mind & Body Hub at the Denmark Hill Campus). These are centres of excellence whereby public-private partnerships can thrive via the co-creation of solutions for complex healthcare problems, with local and global impact.
- SC1 is underpinned by four strategic pillars that anchor its vision. These include Entrepreneurship Enterprise and becoming the 'go to' ecosystem for start-ups, entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises (SMEs); a Partnership Strategy which provides a framework and synergistic fit for BioPharma, Big Tech and the investment community; an Employment & Skills Strategy that focuses on leveraging local talent; and a Real Estate Strategy across the three Innovation Hubs that provides the space to realise this unique vision.

Theme #1 - Life Sciences: Medical and Technology

Key Message

SC1 is a Life Sciences Innovation District in the heart of London with a bold vision to bring public sector partners together with start-ups, founders and innovative businesses, creating a dynamic intersection of health, technology and data, to optimise health equity, locally and globally. SC1 enables academic and clinical partners, along with BioPharma, BioTech, Technology companies and entrepreneurs to co-locate and collaborate to unlock game-changing life sciences innovation.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. Through its founding partners (King's College London, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust the Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation, as well as the Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark), SC1 already has a track-record of successful collaboration with BioPharma and BioTech through ongoing engagements and partnerships with GSK, Pfizer, Astra Zeneca, MSD, BMS, Novartis, Lundbeck, Evgen Pharma, Seer Medical, Apollo Therapeutics, Orchard Therapeutics and UCB, as well as partnerships with multi-national technology companies such as IBM, NVIDIA and Siemens Healthineers.
2. Our partnership strategy focuses on the core areas of oncology and haematology, mental health and neurosciences and cardiovascular/respiratory disease. This strategy weaves through key global trends taking place in healthcare today including personalised care, early detection, diagnosis, and prevention while leveraging data, digital infrastructure and artificial intelligence.
3. We are at the forefront of Health Data Sciences allowing researchers, innovators, businesses, and clinicians to draw from and bring together a rich set of linked primary care and national datasets and supporting the translation of these data sets into accessible and actionable insight to improve health.
4. Translation of innovative technologies into viable therapies available to patients is complex and many novel technologies fail due to challenges surrounding clinical practice, manufacturing, diagnostic and treatment pathways, clinical adoption and regulations. The new London Institute for Healthcare Engineering (LIHE) will represent a multidisciplinary, physical space within St Thomas' Hospital and the SC1 MedTech Hub to overcome these barriers and develop novel medical technologies from conception to commercialisation bringing together academics, clinicians and MedTech companies.
5. One of the most exciting cornerstones for the SC1 Mind & Body Hub is the Pears Maudsley Centre for Children and Young People which is due to open on the Denmark Hill Campus in 2023. The centre is the result of a partnership between South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, King's College London and the Maudsley Charity, which aims to transform child and adolescent mental health care by accelerating the time taken to bring research breakthroughs into clinical treatment via private-public sector collaborations.

Theme #2 - Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Key Message

SC1 is the 'go-to' ecosystem locally and globally, for anyone innovating in healthcare, from visionary start-ups, founders and SMEs looking to grow in the healthcare space, to established life sciences organisations. SC1 democratises discovery through an established network of support from academic and clinical experts, funding opportunities, a wide-ranging pool of talent and resources at every point along the entrepreneurial journey. It also provides access to flexible, affordable workspace, collaboration with leading hospitals as well as data and technology partners, and a thriving platform of accelerators and expanding incubator space.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. The spirit of entrepreneurship and the provision of funds, support and advice is a cornerstone of the SC1 strategy embedded within the founding partners. One example is KHP Ventures - a collaboration between King's College London, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, formed to offer equity investments with healthcare expertise for ground-breaking MedTech and Digital Start-ups, as well as enterprise health technology.
2. Our thriving platform of accelerators and resources to support entrepreneurs and founders along the Entrepreneurial Journey:
 - Innovation@King's is the university's investment into, and realignment of, innovation support resources to accelerate the ability to capitalise on the world-class research discoveries at King's. The function will bring cohesiveness to the College's interactions with business, whilst also nurturing its translational pipeline by connecting this work at an earlier stage with experts in commercialisation – ultimately with an aim to shorten the pathway to societal impact. It will offer enhanced and integrated support resource to the entire research community including researchers, PGRs, post-docs and technical staff
 - King's20 Accelerator: the Entrepreneurship Institute's flagship programme supporting the 20 brightest and highest potential ventures from across King's to take their ideas and ventures to the next level. Since 2016, 120 ventures have launched through the accelerator. Ventures have gone on to raise over £60 million in investment and generate over £29 million in revenue, as well as employing over 600 people.
 - The P4 Precision Medicine accelerator programme will support 40 to 50 early-stage businesses in progressing precision medicine technologies, stimulating £15 million of private investment within two to three years.
 - The Cancer Tech Accelerator (CTA) programme, a collaboration with Cancer Research UK and Roche launched in 2021, is focused on supporting researchers who are working up ideas centred on early-stage technologies relying on data, AI or MedTech to advance the early detection, diagnosis, monitoring or treatment of cancer.
 - DigitalHealth London brings together NHS staff, digital health companies & academics to improve NHS and social care in London through digital health. Its accelerator programme has supported 143 digital health companies and has raised £118,001,546 investment. 87% of SMEs demonstrated growth whilst on the programme.
3. Lambeth and Southwark Council's affordable workspace policies ensure any new large-scale developments bring forward affordable workspaces for life sciences start-ups, SMEs and incubators – helping innovators to stay and grow their enterprises in Central London.
4. SC1 is already home to incredible spin-outs such as AviadoBio (recently voted as one of *Fierce Biotech's* 2022 'Fierce 15'), Hypervision Surgical, Quell Therapeutics, GammaDelta Therapeutics (acquired by Takeda), Neuronostics, Handl Therapeutics (acquired by UCB) and Leucid Bio.

Theme #3 - Creative Collaboration

Key Message

SC1 is reimagining the model for open, collaborative, public-private partnerships that are needed to creatively solve complex healthcare challenges and drive health equity locally and globally. SC1's Three Innovation Hubs are centres of excellence in mental health & neuroscience, cardiovascular & respiratory disease, cancer and blood disorders, and are underpinned by an expansive platform in digital, data and health technology that supports and accelerates the development of innovative solutions from conception through to commercialisation.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. SC1's Three Innovation Hubs sit within some of London's fastest growing and most vibrant commercial and cultural centres:
 - At the Westminster Bridge Campus, the SC1 MedTech Hub is carrying out cutting edge work, across areas as diverse as children's health, cardiovascular and respiratory disease – all at world-renowned specialty centres of excellence, such as the St Thomas' Hospital, Royal Brompton Hospital, and the Evelina London Children's Hospital. As per the name, this MedTech Hub is notable for its leadership in "healthcare engineering."
 - At the London Bridge Campus, the SC1 BioMedical Hub is carrying out pioneering work in the fields of cancer, genomic medicine and immunology, The Hub is anchored by Guy's Hospital, Guy's Cancer Centre, Guy's Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult, Guy's Clinical Research Facility, Genomic Medical Centre, and King's Faculty of Life Sciences and Medicine.
 - At the Denmark Hill Campus, the SC1 Mind & Body Hub builds on a heritage of leading institutions including King's College Hospital (KCH), South London and Maudsley Hospital (SLaM), the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience and specialist centres such as the Cicely Saunders Institute focusing on areas such as neurology, mental health, and substance misuse with KCH leading in haematology, liver disease, transplantation, and foetal medicine. The Pears Maudsley Centre for Children and Young People will be transformative for mental health and change the trajectory of young people's lives.
2. Within the MedTech Hub, we are proud of our growing number of partnerships with technology innovators such as NVIDIA and Insilico in the AI space, Siemens Healthineers in patient-centred clinical decision-making and BrainMiner in machine learning for neurology. These partnerships are supported by the leading School of Biomedical Engineering & Imaging Sciences and bring cutting edge expertise from centres of excellence such as the AI Centre for Value Based Healthcare. Three key developments reflect this trifecta partnership approach (academia, NHS and industry):
 - The London Institute of Healthcare Engineering (LIHE) - a new, multidisciplinary, physical space within St Thomas' Hospital and the SC1 MedTech will develop novel medical technologies from conception to commercialisation bringing together academics, clinicians and MedTech companies. This will transform patient care by accelerating the translational pathway and enabling early NHS adoption of technology.
 - The Mary Seacole Centre – a joint imaging centre between Kings College London and Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust - a new clinical imaging suite, that is joined with the School's Advanced Imaging Suite, seeing clinicians and researchers come together to work on novel scanning methods and accelerate clinical translation.
 - The Surgical & Interventional Engineering Validation Suite is a unique combination of an Integration Room and an Intervention Room, a state-of-the-art simulated operative theatre where the technology can be deployed and tested on post-mortem models in a realistic surgical environment.
3. An impactful example of the leadership within SC1 is illustrated by the development of the ZOE App, the world's largest ongoing study into the COVID-19 virus, led by Tim Spector OBE, Professor of Genetic Epidemiology at King's College London. The App has had over 4.7 million contributors, published over 40 scientific papers covering topics ranging from cancer and COVID risk, to side-effects of COVID vaccines and vaccine effectiveness over time. It has shaped health policy and tracked disease hotspots over the pandemic and continues to track COVID-19 and its long-term impacts.

Theme #4 - Health Equity

Key Message

Reimagining innovation and health equity is not only the mission that unites the seven founding clinical, academic and community partners of SC1, but is also a guiding principle that forms the foundation for collaborations with like-minded partners. The intent towards optimising health equity – where everyone can attain their full potential for health and well-being – is integral to SC1’s four strategic pillars and will set us apart from other innovation clusters.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. SC1 is uniquely qualified to optimise health equity on a local and global level owing to its strong foundation of innovation, academic, research and clinical leadership, and diverse population, with a District that has the active engagement of the Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. Stakeholders within the boroughs, as well as Population Health and Equity Leaders within King’s Health Partners, along with the Policy Institute at King’s College London (KCL) will play a key role in ensuring that our future initiatives factor in the needs and views of the local community.
 - The Policy Institute at KCL works to solve society’s challenges with evidence and expertise by combining the rigour of academia with the agility of a consultancy and the connectedness of a think tank.
 - Several programs are already underway via the leadership of King’s Health Partners Urban Population Health & South East London Integrated Care System
 - Health equity is at the heart of Guy’s & St Thomas’ Foundation mission in their role as landowner, long-term investor and through their programmes to build the foundations of a society that helps everyone stay healthier for longer.
2. Lambeth and Southwark are neighbouring inner-London boroughs located south of the River Thames. With a combined population of over 641,800 people, Lambeth and Southwark are both young, diverse, and rapidly growing boroughs with large numbers of young adults and residents from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds. Each borough faces significant inequalities in health outcomes, linked to high levels of socio-economic disadvantage. This is an important backdrop to bring partners together to focus on health equity locally and globally.
3. Lambeth Council were awarded £5 million to support HEART (Health Evaluation and Research Network) which aims to tackle falling levels of life expectancy and healthy life expectancy by using research and evidence to improve the health of local people. Funding for Lambeth HEART was secured from the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and was one of only 10 Health Determinants Research Collaboration (HDRC) programmes awarded funding to tackle interventions for health inequalities through research. The successful bid was developed with local people, staff and partners at Kings College London and Black Thrive, a great example of collaboration.
4. Several of our partnerships with leading BioPharma organisations have integral components that address health inequalities (i.e., BMS and Novartis), with potential to not only impact local community, but also become a global exemplar.

Theme #5 - London Location

Key Message

SC1 is proud to be part of the thriving and culturally diverse community in the London Boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. This vibrant, well-connected and instantly recognisable part of central London, with a long history of innovation in health, is the ideal place to transform healthcare, reimagine innovation and health equity, and change the lives of people locally and globally.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. Space in London is undoubtedly at a premium. SC1 offers start-ups, SMEs, entrepreneurs, BioPharma and BioTech access to affordable lab and working space in iconic and thriving parts of the Capital. In addition, proximity to key academic and clinical centres that form part of the SC1 ecosystem provide access to expertise, real-world data and a diverse community to co-create with.
2. The central London location of the District and Innovation Hubs offer access to fantastic transport links, cultural amenities, and leading institutions which themselves are collaborating closely as part of SC1. The SC1 MedTech Hub is based at the Westminster Bridge Campus, the SC1 BioMedical Hub is based at the London Bridge Campus, while the SC1 Mind & Body Hub is based at the Denmark Hill Campus.
3. SC1 harnesses a wealth of clinical and research expertise which, coupled with the rich culture of the area – with over 150 languages spoken – offers a diverse and talented workforce and is the ideal backdrop to collaborate, learn from patients, improve real-world evidence or go beyond the medicine and improve the healthcare experience for people locally and globally.

Theme #6 - Local Community

Key Message

While our ambition is global, we are committed to a lasting positive impact on those that study, live and work within the SC1 community. SC1 will create affordable and flexible work and research space, generate more jobs, provide opportunities for education, training and upskilling, and boost investment into life sciences and healthcare. SC1 will connect the community with a wealth of opportunities to improve the health and lives of people locally and globally, for generations to come.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. Research conducted by some of our partners (e.g., Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation) shows how impactful the quality of jobs and opportunities, as well as the environment we live and work in, is on health – it is important that the work of SC1 and its founding partners positively influences these factors and social determinates of health.
2. SC1 aspires to create 60,000 new high-quality jobs in the life sciences sector in the local area by 2050 and is underpinned by a strategy focused on linking residents to jobs, creating pathways into the sector from school to workplace, and working with industry partners to ensure that new jobs created cater to diverse qualifications and skill-levels. This includes for example, apprenticeship programmes, skills escalators and widened access medical degree programmes within many of our partners.
3. For university students, researchers and innovators, SC1 fosters a spirit of 'open innovation' creating an exciting educational and career path. It will be inspiring for students and professionals to study and work within not only a world-renowned institution, but one that sits in a thriving life sciences ecosystem offering opportunities to cultivate entrepreneurial aspirations, with the potential for local and global impact.
4. SC1 developments including Royal Street at Westminster Bridge and the Snowsfields Quarter at London Bridge, are all designed to have a positive impact on the local community by:
 - Creating space for community and social well-being uses, educational programmes and well-being initiatives that benefit the local and wider communities.
 - Including plans for cafés, restaurants, and retail outlets to bolster the local economy and attract companies and employees.
 - Providing conference and event spaces as well as external spaces will allow for pop up events and exhibitions and more green spaces to support sustainability and the environment.
 - Offering high quality, sustainable buildings and spaces by award winning architects respecting the local character and context of the area with a focus on green spaces, and biodiversity, pedestrian and cycling routes and the removal of parking spaces in favour of cycle spaces to encourage active travel and a walkable neighbourhood to facilitate collaborations

Theme #7 - Real Estate

Key Message

An exciting part of SC1 is the generation of new buildings and creative spaces within Lambeth and Southwark that will foster co-location and partnership within the private and public sectors, around the shared goal of improving health equity. Notably, the Guy's and St Thomas' Foundation (GSTF) work with leading developers and architects to create responsible, adaptable and sustainable developments with prime lab space, collaboration environments and affordable workspace in this iconic part of London, whilst ensuring a positive impact on local community.

Key Supportive Proof Points

1. As part of the SC1 Real Estate strategy there is a goal to establish a spectrum of adaptable spaces which respond to the needs of start-ups and entrepreneurs, SMEs and multi-national organisations. In addition, SC1 is ensuring that the significant life science developments planned are part of an integrated and overall cohesive strategy with links to the university, while improving the liveability and decarbonisation of our local neighbourhoods. Our strategy allows for tenants to work with our development teams to shape and tailor the space for their needs.
2. One of our founding partners for SC1, Guy's & St Thomas' Foundation (GSTF), is an independent charitable foundation investing in a healthier society. For over 500 years, the Foundation has been a constant in London's ever-changing landscape, at the leading edge of health. GSTF is a responsible and unique landowner, with a dual mandate to improve health and produce financial returns.
3. GSTF is working with development partners to create 2 million sq ft of space at Royal Street as part of the MedTech Hub at Westminster Bridge. This includes 300,000 sq ft of lab-enabled space and up to 100,000 sq ft of affordable workspace. Potential benefits include:
 - 133 houses with 50 per cent affordable housing and NHS key workers being prioritised.
 - £25m worth of affordable workspace provision. All this space will be lab-enabled meaning that it can be readily converted into dry or wet lab space, offering much needed flexibility for a dynamic healthcare environment. A quarter of the workspace will also be suitable for "wet-lab" use.
 - Over 7,000 full-time jobs will be created.
 - £1bn Gross Value Added (GVA) added each year.
4. Another notable large phase one development at Snowfields Quarter in London Bridge is planned to deliver high-quality commercially available lab and R&D space and house projects and partners who previously have had to relocate to other parts of London or out of the city altogether.
 - GSTF has commissioned development partners who will invest approximately £350 million to create a 300,000 sq ft life sciences space with world-class lab facilities across three new buildings.
 - The state-of-the-art development will be best-in-class sustainable development, with energy-efficient, low-carbon footprint buildings setting the standard for a zero-carbon future.