

# Health and Social Care Programme

With health and care systems around the globe facing increasing pressures, the use of digital technology has never been more important. Supporting a vibrant ecosystem with the potential to become a world leader, techUK is helping its members navigate the complex space of digital health and care in the UK and ensure our NHS is prepared for the challenges of the future.

[Visit the Health and Social Care hub on our website.](#)



# 2021 Achievements

## Developing markets

Early and effective industry engagement is critical to ensuring the health and care system has access to the technology that it needs. In 2021, the Health and Social Care team delivered value to members by:

- Organising over 40 events providing industry with an opportunity to engage with stakeholders across the country and vice versa; this was done through our strategic partnership with NHS Digital, close working relationship with NHS England Transformation Directorate, as well as INTEROPen, the Professional Record Standards Body, the MHRA, Health Data Research UK, Health Education England and more.
- Running a series of industry days for the Northern Ambulance Alliance.
- Publishing the [Ten Point Plan for Healthtech](#), a report setting out recommendations to help foster the UK's growing digital health and care industry. The report drew the attention of the wider health and social care system and was welcomed by the then Minister for Innovation, Technology and Life Sciences at the Department for Health and Social Care. Following the report we have seen progress on a number of recommendations, including putting Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) on statutory footing and driving forward interoperability of systems.

## Developing networks

Building on our work with NHS trusts across the country, given the move to Integrated Care Systems (ICSs), we succeeded in:

- Organising a number of market briefings with Chief Digital Officers from ICSs to share their strategies and flag upcoming opportunities to industry.
- Working closely with public sector stakeholders across the country to organise a number of roundtables and support other events in Leeds, Greater Manchester, and the West Midlands. We did the same for Scotland and Wales, engaging with the Scottish Government and Digital Health and Care Wales.
- Continuing our regular 'Partnering and Networking' events series, which gave members of all sizes opportunities to network virtually and form productive relationships with possible Healthtech partners.
- Hosting our annual Health and Social Care Dinner in London, where we were joined by nearly 300 stakeholders from across public sector and industry, and heard from our president, Jacqueline de Rojas, and NHS System Chief Information Officer and Director of Levelling Up, Sonia Patel.

# 2021 Achievements

## Reducing business cost and risk

In addition to the role we play supporting INTEROPen, the team worked with members to:

- Articulate and formulate industry's position to the MHRA consultation on the future regulation of medical devices, the NHS AI Lab draft AI and the NHS England and Improvement Transformation Directorate draft data strategy.
- Ensure the wider ecosystem supports and helps innovators deploy proven digital health technology to health and social care, through work with our Interoperability, Social Care and User Centred Design Working Groups, supported by our Health and Social Care Council.

# 2022 Objectives

## Market engagement and showcasing members

techUK will work with members to showcase how digital technologies can address and solve existing and future challenges faced by the NHS and be the go-to organisation for pre-procurement industry engagement.

Together with Integrated Care Systems across the country we will continue to run market engagement sessions with central bodies including NHS England and Improvement and the UK Health Security Agency, helping the health service become the most intelligent client for technology possible.

## Deepen engagement with the health and social sector

techUK connects technology companies large and small with the health and social care system.

The complexity of the health and care system means that we need a structured and formalised approach to engagement to support healthcare innovation. Our industry briefings and partnership events help members deepen their understanding of the sector, and our partnerships with bodies like NHS Digital, soon part of the NHS England Transformation Directorate, will allow us to help foster networks for better pre-procurement market engagement and best practice and knowledge sharing. We will host two flagship dinners in Leeds and London inviting ministers and regional leaders to join us and engage with our members.

## Build a better business environment

techUK will campaign for smarter procurement, and industry-informed standards, to reduce the risks and costs associated with supplying to the health care system.

We will continue to campaign for and work with stakeholders to drive interoperability of systems, support the digitisation of social care and improve the overall business environment, ensuring that industry considerations are heard, and these key items are informed by leading industry thinking. Guided by members' interests, we are developing an industry position on the growing space of digital innovation in the life sciences industry, with techUK acting as the body connecting industry, research and public sector organisations.