

Press release

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Digital, data, and technology key to getting Integrated Care Systems right from the start, claims new techUK report

- *The technology trade association lists five key recommendations for Integrated Care Systems to make digital and technology work for them*

London, 21 July 2022: techUK, the technology trade association, has today published a new report – *Right from the Start: What should Integrated Care Systems prioritise to make digital, data and technology work for them and their populations?* - highlighting the key areas in which Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) can make a significant impact in driving progress on the most pressing issues facing the service at the moment: tackling the backlog, addressing health inequalities, and the need to improve patient outcomes and staff experience.

Integrated Care Systems are at the centre of the most substantial legislative changes that the NHS has undergone in a decade and have the potential to offer a once-in-a-generation opportunity to rethink how the UK approaches health and social care. Today's paper, written in collaboration with techUK's Health and Social Care Council, the wider vendor community, and informed by techUK's engagement with organisations across the public sector, shares **five key recommendations** for ICSs, in line with the ambition of the Chief Executive of the NHS, Amanda Pritchard, to make these systems the primary drivers of delivery of better health and services for every community.

The recommendations focus on:

- Putting the who before the how: helping citizens take control of their health and care
- Putting the why before the what: embedding demand-signalling within each ICS
- Putting outcomes before processes: fostering innovation through procurement
- Prioritising interoperability and data: driving long-term transformation
- Working together: creating an open and transparent environment for collaboration

The report features a series of case studies from techUK members, championing their work in tech and innovation to support the UK's health and social care system, and it follows the publication of techUK's flagship report, the [Ten Point Plan for Healthtech](#).

In the foreword to the paper, the **Digital Health Networks Chairs and Deputy Chairs** write:

“A key strength of the new techUK report is in its recommendations to work with existing structures in vital enabling areas such as procurement, innovation, interoperability, and partnership with industry. The leaders of Digital Health Networks look forward to working with techUK, ICSs and other partners to help achieve the potential of digital and data in the brave new world of ICSs.”

Talking about the paper, **Andreas Haimböck-Tichy, Managing Director, Healthcare UKI, Chair of techUK Health & Social Care Council**, said:

“Digital technologies have already revolutionised how health and care services are delivered. Integrated Care Systems present the opportunity to further accelerate how citizens engage with and experience services, as well as enabling staff to work in new ways. Continued collaboration between the health and care sector and the technology industry will be a critical success factor in making this transformation a reality.”

Leontina Postelnicu, Head of Health and Social Care at techUK, said:

“Our *Right from the Start* paper distills the views of hundreds of technology companies operating across the health and social care sectors that we at techUK engage with day in and day out. There is clearly huge momentum across the space to build on the progress we have seen in recent years and accelerate the deployment of technology for the benefit of patients and staff. Close collaboration between the NHS, social care and its supplier base will be paramount to making this happen. As this paper shows, industry is ready and willing to engage. It is now up to the public sector to match this.”

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Notes to Editors

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About techUK

techUK is the technology trade association that brings together people, companies and organisations to realise the positive outcomes of what digital technology can achieve.

With around 900 members (the majority of which are SMEs) across the UK, techUK creates a network for innovation and collaboration across business, government and stakeholders to provide a better future for people, society, the economy and the planet.

By providing expertise and insight, we support members, partners and stakeholders as they prepare the UK for what comes next in a constantly changing world.