A guide to the Government for BIA members February 2023

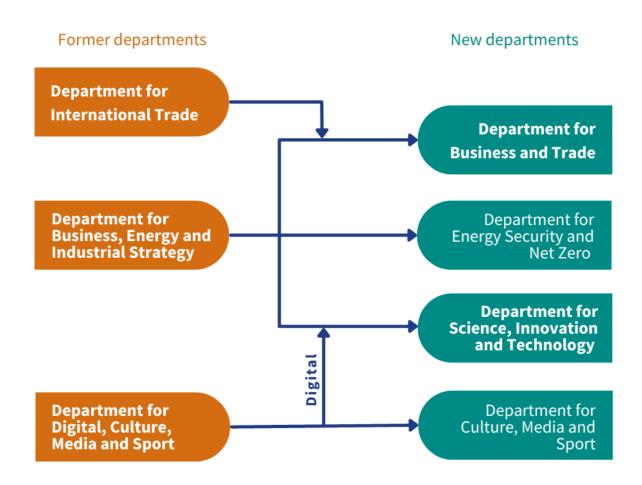


This is a briefing for BIA members on the Government led by Rishi Sunak, including the key ministers and policymakers for our sector. It reflects the changes resulting from Sunak's Cabinet reshuffle in February 2023, including the newly created Department for Science, Innovation and Technology.

The Government currently holds a working majority of 67 seats in the House of Commons. This majority was secured at the 2019 general election, the manifesto for which Sunak has said he is committed to.

Departmental changes

Rishi Sunak's February 2023 reshuffle included a change to the machinery of government. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) has been split up, with its life science responsibilities divided between a new Department for Business and Trade (DBT) and a new Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT). Responsibility for energy now lies with a Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), while the new DSIT picks up digital from the reformed Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).



This reshuffle raises the question of how civil service resources will be divided between the new departments. While some of these have not yet been allocated, the DSIT's Permanent Secretary will be Rachel Munby (formerly Permanent Secretary of BEIS) and the department will include:

- The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) (jointly with the Department for Health and Social Care)
- Government Office for Science (GOScience)
- Office for Science and Technology (OSTS)
- The Director General for Science and Growth
- The Director General for Digital and Tech

Key Ministers and policymaker profiles

The responsibilities for the life sciences sector continue to be split between health and business department ministers. This is centrally coordinated by the Office for Life Sciences, with spans both departments. There are also a number of other departments and ministers that are relevant to the sector.

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP - Prime Minister



Rishi Sunak became Prime Minister following Liz Truss's resignation after 45 days in the job. He was elected as Leader, and therefore Prime Minister, by the Parliamentary Conservative Party following the withdrawal of Penny Mordaunt MP from the contest. He most recently served as Chancellor of the Exchequer under Boris Johnson.

Sunak has put innovation at the centre of his economic plan and he has <u>pledged</u> to make the UK a 'science superpower' by increasing funding into the sector and supporting a UK 'plan B' alternative to the Horizon Europe programme. He specifically cited life sciences as a UK strength and growth opportunity in the first of the televised husting debates when campaigning

and has gone on to mention the sector in several speeches as Prime Minister.

As Chancellor, he approved the largest ever increase in public R&D investment and made both positive and negative changes to R&D tax reliefs. Addressing the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) in November 2022, Sunak spoke of the importance of innovation, referring to its ability to drive economic growth and the importance of embedding it within public services like the NHS. He also mentioned the role that skills play in enabling innovation and the need for SMEs to innovate too. His February 2023 reshuffle, which created the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, is a sign of the emphasis be places on science and innovation.

Rishi Sunak has a background in finance, beginning his career at Goldman Sachs and later working for a hedge fund.

Since becoming the MP for Richmond (Yorkshire) in 2015, Sunak has quickly established himself as a key figure within the Conservative Party. Beginning with stints at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Ministry of Housing, Sunak became Chief Secretary to the Treasury in 2019 and then Chancellor in 2020. Dissatisfied with the Johnson Administration, he resigned in July 2022 and now returns to high office as, at 42, the youngest Prime Minister since Lord Liverpool in 1812.

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP - Chancellor of the Exchequer



Jeremy Hunt was appointed Chancellor by then Prime Minister Liz Truss following the sacking of Kwasi Kwarteng. He is viewed as a figure of financial orthodoxy tasked with reversing the impacts of Truss's economic policies. He was reappointed by Sunak to play an important part in the Prime Minister's plan to 'place economic stability and confidence at the heart of this government's agenda'.

In the Chancellor's Statement of 17 October, Hunt described his brief as raising 'decisions of eye-watering difficulty' in the search for 'economic stability'. R&D is no exception to this, with universities and business leaders writing to the Chancellor urging him not to cut funding for R&D as this would damage long term growth. Hunt's substantial experience in health both as Secretary of State for Health and Chair of the Health and Social Care

Committee raises hopes that he understands the importance of life science innovation to improving patient outcomes in the NHS. In his <u>Autumn Statement</u> in November 2022, Hunt referred to life sciences as one of the UK's 'five growth industries' and upheld the importance of ensuring the UK is a science superpower. Hunt protected the R&D budget of £20 billion by 2024-2025, set out in 2021's Comprehensive Spending Review, but <u>cut R&D tax credits</u> for SMEs in a move which will hinder innovation. He has since written to BIA stating that he recognized the cut was problematic for the sector and that he sees merit in the case for further support.

Hunt entered Parliament as the MP for South West Surrey in 2005 and later served as Secretary of State for Health between 2012 and 2018 under David Cameron and Theresa May before leading the Foreign Office until 2019. Before entering politics, and after graduating with a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, Hunt worked in management consulting and founded Hotcourses, an international study platform.

Rt Hon Michelle Donelan MP - Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology



Michelle Donelan MP was promoted to Secretary of State for the newly created Department for Science, Innovation and Technology by Rishi Sunak in his February 2023 reshuffle. She was previously the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (2022-3).

Donelan became the inaugural Secretary of State in the newly formed Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) following the changes made to the machinery of government by Sunak in February 2023. Donelan's previous roles have not been within science or business, having worked in various roles at the Department for Education between 2019 and 2022. Most notably, she was the Universities Minister between 2020 and 2022 before a brief stint as Secretary of State for Education. In her first Tweet in

her new role, Donelan expressed her ambition to 'make Britain the most innovative economy in the world'. Donelan <u>spoke of</u> the importance of bringing together quantum, AI, engineering biology, life sciences, and green technologies under one department.

Donelan has been the Member for Chippenham since 2015. Before entering politics, she worked in marketing, having graduated with a BA in History and Politics from York University.

George Freeman MP - Minister of State



George Freeman MP remains a Minister for State in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), having previously served as Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). Apart from a period without a ministerial position in the summer of 2022, Freeman has been the Science Minister since his appointment by then-Prime Minister Boris Johnson in September 2021.

It remains to be seen how Freeman's responsibilities will change within the new DSIT, but the existence of a department focused solely on science and innovation demonstrates the important place our sector holds within the government's agenda. Freeman <u>tweeted</u> that he will be taking responsibility for life sciences.

In an earlier <u>Tweet</u> setting out his priorities at BEIS, Freeman has listed Horizon Europe, launching ARIA, improving the R&D ecosystem, attracting talent and skills, connecting the City to UK scale-ups, and boosting R&D clusters. All of these are key issues impacting the life science sector, reflecting Freeman's considerable experience working in this area in government, beginning with his appointment as government adviser on life sciences in July 2011. He is also a long-time ally of the BIA, and most recently spoke at our Parliament Day in July 2022.

Before being elected to Parliament, Freeman had a 15-year career across the life sciences sector, particularly working with hospitals, clinical researchers, patient groups and biomedical research companies to pioneer novel healthcare innovations. He set up 4D Biomedical, a consulting and seed investment advisory business and worked as a biomedical venture capitalist. He holds a BA in Geography from the University of Cambridge and has been the MP for Mid Norfolk since 2010.

Paul Scully MP - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State



Paul Scully became a Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the new Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) in the February 2023 reshuffle. He has been the Minister for Tech and the Digital Economy within the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) since October 2022. With DCMS's responsibility for digital moving to DSIT, Scully will likely continue to work on digital issues within the new department.

As Minister for Tech and the Digital Economy, Scully has worked on digital strategy, tech policy, and the Office for AI. It remains to be seen how his brief will change within DSIT. Scully was previously Minister for Small Business, Consumers and Labour Markets at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy between 2020 and 2022. During this time, BIA met with

him to discuss the NSI Bill, innovation funding, and the Biomedical Catalyst.

Scully has been the MP for Sutton and Cheam since 2015. After graduating from Reading University with a degree in Chemistry and Food Science, Scully worked as a Parliamentary Assistant to Alok Sharma MP and then as a consultant at Nudge Factory.

Rt Hon Stephen Barclay MP - Secretary of State for Health and Social Care



Stephen Barclay has been reappointed as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, having previously held the role between July and September 2022. He has been the MP for North East Cambridgeshire since 2010.

Prior to his earlier stint as Secretary of State under Boris Johnson, Barclay had worked as Minister of State for Health between January and November 2018. In a <u>statement</u> setting out his priorities, Barclay pledged to focus on 'the areas that matter most to the patient experience', including improving access to primary care, focusing on recovery plans, and investing in technology to improve patient outcomes.

Barclay read History at the University of Cambridge and then qualified as a solicitor, later working for Axa Insurance and the Financial Services Authority. He has held various ministerial positions, notably Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union between 2018 and 2020 and Chief Secretary to the Treasury from 2020 to 2021.

Will Quince MP - Minister of State (Minister for Health and Secondary Care)



Will Quince became a Minister of State at the DHSC in September 2022, having been appointed by Liz Truss and then re-appointed by Rishi Sunak. He previously worked at the Department for Education between 2021 and 2022 as Minister for Children and Families and later Minister for School Standards.

Quince will be an important stakeholder as his extensive portfolio includes life sciences, genomics, medicines, and sponsorship of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). Although he hasn't held a health or business brief before, Quince has expressed his desire to 'speak fluent life sciences and recently visited the Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult Manufacturing Innovation Centre in Stevenage. He has also met with BIA multiple times since becoming

minister.

He has been the Member for Colchester since 2015 and graduated from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth with a LLB in Law in 2005.

Helen Whately MP- Minister of State (Minister for Social Care)



Helen Whately returned to the DHSC as Minister for Social Care in October 2022, having been appointed by Rishi Sunak. She served in the same post under Boris Johnson between February 2020 and September 2021.

Importantly, in addition to social care, Whately's brief includes responsibility for major diseases (cancer, diabetes, and strokes) and rare diseases. Whately's last <u>statement</u> on rare diseases came in March 2020, so it remains to be seen what her approach will be in the post-COVID environment.

Whately was elected MP for Faversham and Mid Kent in 2015 and was most recently in government as Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury. She holds a BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University.

Neil O'Brien MP - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Primary Care and Public Health)



Neil O'Brien became a health minister in September 2022 under Liz Truss and was re-appointed by Rishi Sunak. The position had previously been known as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Vaccines and Public Health while Maggie Throup MP was in post.

O'Brien has not previously worked at the DHSC but we was a member of the Science and Technology Select Committee between 2017 and 2019 and a Parliamentary Private Secretary at BEIS between 2018 and 2019. He will now take responsibility for vaccines, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), which absorbed some of the Vaccine Taskforce's duties, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

O'Brien holds a degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Oxford University and previously worked at think tanks including Policy Exchange before becoming a special advisor at HM Treasury and to Prime Minister Theresa May. He also co-founded the think tank Onward in 2018. He has been the MP for Harborough since the 2017 general election.

Maria Caulfield MP – Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Mental Health and Women's Health Strategy)



Maria Caulfield has worked in various roles at the Department of Health and Social Care since 2021. She was most recently appointed Minister for Mental Health and Women's Health Strategy by Rishi Sunak in October 2022.

In addition to her mental health and women's health brief, Caulfield takes responsibility for vaccines (including both COVID-19 vaccine deployment and routine immunisations), UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), and patient safety.

Caulfield is the Member for Lewes. She worked as an NHS nurse for twenty years before entering politics and now holds an MSc in Cancer Care.

Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP - Secretary of State for Business and Trade



Kemi Badenoch became Secretary of State for International Trade under Liz Truss in September 2022. She was then promoted to Secretary of State for Business and Trade in February 2023 following the former Department for International Trade's reorganisation as the Department for Business and Trade.

Badenoch began her ministerial career at the Department for Education and has since held roles at HM Treasury (2020-21) and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2021-2). She rose to prominence during the 2022 Conservative Party leadership contest, where she finished fourth. Having been rewarded with the role of Secretary of State, Badenoch has <u>listed her priorities</u> as slashing trade barriers, reaching £1 trillion exports by 2030, becoming Europe's number one investment destination,

and defending free trade by strengthening supply chains. <u>Speaking</u> at a meeting of the Board of Trade in Cardiff in November, Badenoch also launched a report on UK life sciences and celebrated the sector, including a reference to the crucial importance of SMEs within the ecosystem.

Badenoch has been the Member for Saffron Walden since 2017. She holds an MEng in Systems Engineering and an LLB from the University of London and has worked in a range of roles, including in IT with Logica and later in consultancy and digital at Coutts and *The Spectator* respectively.

Nusrat Ghani MP - Minister of State



Nus Ghani was first appointed as a BEIS minister by Liz Truss in September 2022. After a brief stint as Science Minister under Truss, Ghani became Minister for Industry and Investment Security, but retained responsibility for life sciences until she moved to the Department for Business and Trade in Rishi Sunak's February 2023 reshuffle. Her role is now shared between DBT and the Cabinet Office. She has been the Member for Wealden since 2015.

Ghani's new brief at DBT and the Cabinet Office has yet to be confirmed, but at BEIS she took responsibility for advanced manufacturing, supply chains, and levelling up. In January 2023, she shared the Medicines Manufacturing Industry Partnership's (MMIP's) paper on UK medicines manufacturing, describing 'the huge opportunity for our brilliant life

sciences sector to drive growth and create opportunities UK-wide'.

Ghani has experience working within the third sector health policy space, previously working for Age Concern and Breakthrough Breast Cancer and later on health campaigns for the BBC World Service. She holds a BA in Government and Politics from Birmingham City University and an MA in International Relations from Leeds.



Nigel Huddleston became a Minister of State at the Department for Business and Industry following the February 2023 reshuffle. He moved from the Department for International Trade, suggesting that he will continue to work on trade issues in the new department.

Huddleston's earlier ministerial positions were at DCMS, beginning with his appointment as Minister for Sport, Tourism and Heritage from 2020 to 2022. He is the Member for Mid Worcestershire and worked as a consultant for companies including Deloitte and Google before entering politics. He holds a BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from Oxford University and a MBA from UCLA.

Lord Johnson of Lainston CBE - Minister of State



Lord Johnson became Minister for Investment at the Department of International Trade in October 2022, replacing Lord Grimstone under Liz Truss. He was reappointed by Sunak in November 2022 and then transferred to the new Department for Business and Industry as a result of the February 2023 reshuffle.

If Lord Johnson is confirmed as Minister for Investment, he will take responsibility for the promotion of investment across sectors, investor relationship management, and the Office for Investment.

Before being raised to the peerage in October 2022, Lord Johnson had been the vice-chairman of the Conservative Party between 2016 and 2019. He spent his career in finance and asset management, including for Somerset

Capital Management, where he worked with Jacob Rees-Mogg.

Kevin Hollinrake MP - Parliamentary Under Secretary of State



Kevin Hollinrake became a Minister at the newly formed Department of Business and Industry as a result of the February 2023 reshuffle. He was appointed Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business at the now-defunct BEIS by Rishi Sunak in October 2022 and will expect to continue this work within the new department.

Hollinrake's role as Minister for Small Businesses marked his first move away from the backbenches, having previously served as PPS to Michael Gove during his time as Secretary of State for the Environment and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

He is the Member for Thirsk and Malton and, before entering politics, worked in property. He holds a degree in Physics from Sheffield Polytechnic.

Ministerial and policy maker positions in the Government relevant to the life sciences sector

Please note that this guide only covers ministers and responsibilities relevant to the life sciences.

Text in red denotes uncertainty over a stakeholder's position or job title. This information will be updated in due course.

Department	Position	Holder	Relevant responsibility
Number 10	Prime Minister	Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP	
	Downing Street Chief of Staff	Liam Booth-Smith	Senior aide to the Prime Minister
	Deputy Chief of Staff (Policy)	Will Tanner (Policy), Rupert Yorke (Political)	
	Deputy Chief of Staff (Political)	Rupert Yorke	
	PPS to the Prime Minister	Craig Williams MP	
	Head of Policy, Policy & Briefing Unit	Eleanor Shawcross	Adviser to the Prime Minister on overall government policy
	Chief Economic Adviser	Douglas McNeill	Economic policy
	Special Adviser to the Prime Minister: Health	Bill Morgan	Adviser to the PM on health
	Special Adviser to the Prime Minister: Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	Nick Park	Adviser to the PM on BEIS.
Cabinet Office	Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Minister for the Cabinet Office	Rt Hon Oliver Dowden CBE MP	Oversight of Cabinet work on science, technology, and innovation; driving delivery of Government's priorities; oversight of all Cabinet Office policy
	PPS to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Ruth Edwards MP, Peter Gibson MP, and James Daly MP	Supporting the work of the Minister for the Cabinet Office

	Parliamentary Secretary	Alex Burghart MP	Day-to-day management of Government functions; Government Commercial Function; Government Digital Service; COVID-19 inquiry; Government Business Services; legislation including secondary legislation and PBL
	Paymaster General	Rt Hon Jeremy Quin MP	Delivery of the Government's efficiency programme; Civil Service modernistation and reform; public bodies
	PPS to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Ruth Edwards MP, Peter Gibson MP, and James Daly MP	Supporting the work of the Minister for the Cabinet Office
HM Treasury (HMT)	Chancellor of the Exchequer	Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP	
	PPS to the Chancellor	Gareth Davies MP, Paul Howell MP	
	Special Advisor to the Chancellor	Adam Smith, Adam Memon, Cameron Brown	
	PPS to the CST	Anthony Mangnall MP	
	Chief Secretary to the Treasury (CST)	John Glen MP	Tax credits; spending reviews; public sector pay and pensions; procurement; capital investment; spending issues related to trade; skills; state pensions.
	Financial Secretary to the Treasury (FST)	Victoria Atkins MP	The UK tax system including business taxation, international tax, and the Finance Bill; trade policy; HMRC; retained EU Law; Investment Zones and Freeports.
	Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury (XST)	James Cartlidge MP	Growth and productivity (including skills, migration, investment zones, economic regulation, and the digital economy); energy, environment, and climate taxes

	Economic Secretary to the Treasury (EST)	Andrew Griffith MP	Financial services policy, including financial conduct, capital markets, competitiveness, and financial stability; pensions tax policy; the British Business Bank and British Patient Capital.
Business and Trade	Secretary of State for Business and Trade	Rt Hon Kemi Badenoch MP	
	Special Advisor to the Business Secretary	Hebe Trotter, Jessica Webb, Hannah Guerin	Policy and media
	Principal Private Secretary to the Business Secretary	Theo Walsingham	
	PPS to the Business Secretary	Luke Evans MP	
	PPS to the Ministerial Team	Jane Stevenson MP	
	Minister of State	Nusrat Ghani MP	TBC
	Minister of State	Nigel Huddleston MP	TBC
	Minister of State (Minister for Investment)	Lord Johnson of Lainston	Investment. Full brief TBC.
	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business)	Kevin Hollinrake MP	Small business. Full brief TBC.
Health and Social Care (DHSC)	Secretary of State for Health and Social Care	Rt Hon Stephen Barclay MP	
	Special Adviser to the Health Secretary	Macer Hall, Iain Carter, Lionel Zetter, Clarence Mitchell, Rob Ede	
	PPS to the Health Secretary	Angela Richardson MP	

	PPS to the Ministerial Team	Duncan Baker MP	
	Minister of State (Minister for Health and Secondary Care)	Will Quince MP	NHS secondary care; secondary care workforce; winter planning; NHS Long Term Plan; research (including genomics and NIHR); life sciences ; medicines and medicines regulation; sponsorship of NICE, MHRA, and HRA.
	Minister of State (Minister for Social Care)	Helen Whately MP	Adult social care; health and care integration; dementia and long-term conditions; major diseases; rare diseases ; COVID-19 vaccine licensing.
	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Primary Care and Public Health)	Neil O'Brien MP	Primary care; blood, transplant and organs; UKHSA; vaccines (COVID-19 vaccine deployment and routine immunisations); Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID); long COVID; AMR ; sponsorship of NHSBT and FSA.
	Parliamentary Under- Secretary of State (Minister for Mental Health and Women's Health Strategy)	Maria Caulfield MP	Women's health; maternity services; DHSC litigation; mental health; disabilities; patient experience; sponsorship of CQC, HTA, HFEA and others.
	Parliamentary Under- Secretary of State (Minister for the Lords)	Nick Markham CBE	NHS capital, land and estates; data and technology; NHS finance; Lords' business; sponsorship of NHSE, NHS Digital, and NHS Counter Fraud Authority.
Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT)	Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology	Rt Hon Michelle Donelan MP	
	Special Advisor to the Science Secretary	Unknown	Policy and Comms

	PPS to the Science Secretary	Unknown	
	Minister of State	George Freeman MP	Life sciences. Whole brief TBC.
	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State	Paul Scully MP	Digital. Whole brief TBC.
Education (DfE)	Secretary of State for Education	Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP	Apprenticeships in skills; further education; higher education
	Special Advisor to the Education Secretary	Rory Gribbell, Lawrence Abel	Policy and Comms
	Minister of State (Minister for Skills, Further and Higher Education)	Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP	Overall strategy for post-16 education; T Levels; apprenticeships and traineeships; further education workforce; local skills improvement plans
	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister of State for Schools)	Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP	Curriculum; digital strategy and technology in education (EdTech)
Home Office	Secretary of State for the Home Department	Rt Hon Suella Braverman KC MP	
	Minister of State (Minister for Immigration)	Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP	Legal migration (including UK points-based system, current and future visa policy, Home Office interests in free trade agreements) and illegal migration and asylum.
	Minister of State (Minister for Security)	Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MBE VR MP	Domestic state threats; cyber crime; economic crime
	Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Lords Minister)	Lord Murray of Blidworth	Migration and borders legislation; EU Settlement Scheme; Northern Ireland Protocol

About the BioIndustry Association (BIA)

The BioIndustry Association (BIA) is the voice of the innovative life sciences and biotech industry, enabling and connecting the UK ecosystem so that businesses can start, grow and deliver world-changing innovation.

We are an award-winning trade association representing more than 500 member companies including:

- Start-ups, biotechnology and innovative life science companies
- Pharmaceutical and technological companies
- Universities, research centres, tech transfer offices, incubators and accelerators
- A wide range of life science service providers: investors, lawyers, IP consultants and IR agencies

Explore opportunities to influence, connect and save with the BIA www.bioindustry.org

For any further information on the contents of this guide please contact Dr Martin Turner, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, by emailing mturner@bioindustry.org