

*Celebrating the University of Liverpool's
contribution to Liverpool City Region*



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The University of Liverpool is a successful global organisation and an anchor institution which makes a major economic and social contribution to Liverpool City Region. Our strategic ambitions - to connect globally, innovate, increase social mobility and work in partnership – directly affect the city region’s performance and prospects. So too does our expenditure, investment, infrastructure and people. This report demonstrates the different ways in which the University contributes to the success of Liverpool and the city region. It reflects on the principles that underpin our engagement and shows how we make a substantial and diverse contribution.

Public interest in the civic role of universities is increasing. For example, *‘Truly Civic: Strengthening the connection between universities and their places’*, the recent report from the Civic University Commission, underlined the crucial contribution that universities can and do make to their local communities by helping businesses adapt to local change, boosting the health of local people, improving education for school pupils and adult learners and developing new civic leaders. It argued that truly civic universities should:

- understand the needs and priorities of their local place and people
- understand what their university offer is and can be
- work with local anchor institutions, businesses and community organisations to agree their communities’ opportunities and challenges
- have clear priorities which identify how and where they can add most value.

We believe this report demonstrates that the University of Liverpool already does much of this work, showing important examples of our promoting health and wellbeing, getting people into employment,

increasing city regional innovation, commercialising knowledge and promoting thought leadership, culture and heritage. The University has committed to developing and deepening those principles and practices even further in future by creating a Civic University Agreement with key city regional organisations. This will allow us to do even more of this work.

Why are universities committed to civic engagement?

It is increasingly recognised that universities should aim to increase economic competitiveness and social welfare within their city regions, promote better public health and help to increase access to economic and social opportunities. These ambitions can be delivered in a variety of ways, including:

- increasing students’ skills, opportunities, and employment
- developing local knowledge transfer partnerships
- encouraging the development of local businesses and social enterprises
- promoting innovation through the commercialisation of knowledge
- hosting public debate and discussion
- enhancing cultural activities and opportunities in the city region
- building strong connections with primary and secondary schools within the city region.



Professor Dinah Birch CBE
Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Cultural Engagement

Professor Michael Parkinson CBE
Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Civic Engagement

HOW DOES THE UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTE TO AND ENGAGE WITH LIVERPOOL CITY REGION?

The success of the University has always been closely associated with the success of Liverpool and its city region. Founded in 1881 by business and industry leaders with the vision to see higher education and research as essential to the city's progress, the University has consistently worked with its stakeholders to support - in the words of our original mission statement - the 'advancement of learning and ennoblement of life'. We train and educate people for the world of work. We increase skill levels in our city region. We provide opportunities for social mobility for local people. We encourage innovation and are investing significantly in Knowledge Quarter Liverpool. We partner major organisations in ground-breaking projects, nationally and globally. We raise the international profile and reputation of Liverpool City Region through our partnerships with organisations all over the globe and by attracting to Liverpool many thousands of staff and students from across the world. Our staff and students are deeply engaged in the social and community life of the city and region and make a significant contribution to its cultural vitality.

Our economic contribution to Liverpool City Region is big and growing

The University is a major contributor to the economy of Liverpool City Region, supporting employment, expenditure and investment on a huge scale as our *Economic and Social Impact Report* in 2016 showed. Nearly 11,000 jobs rely on the University, either through direct employment or through spending by the University, our staff, students, suppliers and visitors. In other words, we support 1 in every 57 jobs in the city region, substantially up from 1 in 70 five years earlier. We generate an annual income of nearly £500 million through our extensive teaching programme and our world-leading research.

We pay £152 million in taxes

Our employment and economic activity generated £152 million in taxes in 2015-16, the equivalent for example of the funding for the Merseyside Fire and Rescue Services for two years. Our staff alone paid £72 million in Income Tax and National Insurance, the equivalent of the salary costs of all the nursing staff at the Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospital NHS Trust for almost one and a half years.

We contribute £652 million GVA

The University, our students, suppliers and visitors generated £652 million Gross Value Added to Liverpool City Region in 2015-16, equivalent to 2.2% of the total for the area. This was up from 1.8% five years earlier.

Our students spend £342 million

Our students have increased by almost 20% in the past five years to 23,000. In 2015-16 they spent £342 million off-campus supporting over 3,000 jobs – again a huge contribution to the local economy.

We spend £73 million with local firms

We buy a lot of our goods and services from within the local economy. In 2015-16, 42% of our total spending on goods and services, £73 million, went to local suppliers in Liverpool City Region creating 890 jobs in those firms.

Our contribution is big in good and challenging times

Our contribution has been growing in recent years at a time when the city region and the country have faced big economic challenges. The University has grown faster than the city region in this period. For example, Liverpool City Region's GVA grew by 4% between 2011-12 and 2015-16, whereas the University's economic growth was 31%. Jobs at the University grew by 21% in comparison with 4% in the city region. We supported 17% more jobs in 2015-16 than five years earlier. So even in a challenging economic climate we have earned more, spent more, grown more, employed more staff, attracted more students and made a growing contribution to the Liverpool city regional economy.

We contribute to inclusive growth

But our economic contribution is not the whole story of our contribution to the city region. We make a huge contribution to an area that has become increasingly important in recent years - inclusive growth. The impact of a troubled global and national economy and austerity in recent years has created a range of social challenges. So achieving economic growth, which also includes all people and communities, has become a particularly important issue nationally and locally. Liverpool city regional leaders are committed to achieving such inclusive growth in future. The University is making a growing contribution to that effort as our actions with local people and communities to increase health and wellbeing, local employment, social mobility and community capacity clearly demonstrates as do our actions to promote innovation, thought leadership, volunteering and cultural engagement.



PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Pioneering public health in Liverpool

Public Health as a medical discipline was born, through the pioneering work of Dr William Henry Duncan, in the slums of 19th century Liverpool. Our University now boasts a state-of-art infrastructure – including the William Henry Duncan Building, home to an ambitious research programme. However, poor health outcomes and health inequalities persist in Liverpool City Region.

The people of Liverpool are more likely to die prematurely of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Cardiovascular disease, for example, caused 3,500 deaths amongst the under-75s in Liverpool City Region in 2014-2016. Many of these deaths were preventable. Poverty plays a key role in a vicious circle whereby NCDs and their risk factors worsen poverty, while poverty contributes to rising rates of NCDs, posing a threat to public health and economic and social development.

32,000 children live in poverty in Liverpool, and socioeconomic inequalities in childhood continue to widen. A baby girl born in disadvantaged Kensington in Liverpool can expect to live for 20 fewer years in good health than a baby girl born in affluent Kensington, London. Children who have grown up in difficult conditions are more likely to face recurring disadvantage that is harmful to their health and wellbeing. It is this accumulation of damaging exposures over the course of people's lives that is likely to explain the close relationship between levels of child poverty and life expectancy at birth in Liverpool. Liverpool citizens also experience poor outcomes as cancer patients, fuelled in part by late presentations. For example, the incidence of head and neck cancer in Liverpool correlates strongly with socio-economic deprivation,

and the mortality rate is significantly higher than that for England as a whole.

The University of Liverpool is helping to meet these challenges. It is a founding member of **Liverpool Health Partners (LHP)**. LHP aligns us with Liverpool City Region's leading hospitals and other local higher education institutions in order to improve health and deliver exemplary research, education and healthcare. LHP's six core values of excellence, enterprise, transparency, integrity, social responsibility and collaboration dovetail with our own as we unite professionals and organisations in working towards common goals. Together with LHP, we have launched two new centres to help address health inequalities and address the specific health needs of Liverpool City Region.

The Liverpool Head and Neck Centre will draw together world-class research and medical expertise to provide the best possible results for head and neck cancer patients locally, under the leadership of Professor Terry Jones and with the support of LHP.

The Liverpool Centre for Cardiovascular Science will bring together experts from the University of Liverpool, Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital, Liverpool John Moores University and LHP to work on the advancement of cardiovascular disease and stroke research, under the leadership of Professor Greg Lip.

These centres are the latest initiatives in over a century of partnership between the University of Liverpool and the people we serve. It is our ambition to leave health inequality behind in the first quarter of the 21st century.



The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dame Janet Beer, at the launch of the Liverpool Head and Neck Centre



Former Liverpool Football Club manager Gérard Houllier helped launch the new collaborative research initiative to improve cardiovascular disease and stroke research in the Liverpool City Region

Our work at the University has also been important in highlighting the inequitable distribution of local authority budget cuts in England, showing that disadvantaged areas of the country with the sickest populations are being affected most by these cuts. We also showed that the cuts are systematically larger in the north of England. The local authority budget cut per head of population is particularly high in Liverpool. The ensuing threats to the budget led to the City Council considering the closure of most of the children's centres in the city, along with other reductions in vital children's services. The University, as a world leader in many aspects of research relevant to the city's health and wellbeing, has joined with others in the city to find ways of tackling these problems.

Developing better policies for children in Liverpool is critical not just for children's health and life chances, but also in terms of influencing the excess burden of adult ill health in Liverpool. The University has an outstanding tradition of providing a significant contribution to improving the quality of life and outcomes for children, young people and babies locally, nationally and internationally.

Our work underpins the 2017 **Children and Young People's Plan** and **Children's Transformation Plan** for Liverpool and has informed the development of a health informatics strategy for the city region to collect better data to improve child health. In addition, the University's evidence on the impact of welfare reforms informed the cumulative impact assessment of welfare reforms carried out by Liverpool City Council in 2016.

Researchers from across the University have advocated Liverpool's participation in the UNICEF Child Friendly Cities programme. We are collaborating with the Liverpool Clinical Commissioning Group, Liverpool City Council, Alder Hey Children's Hospital and other partners in developing this agenda. We play a key role in supporting a Child Friendly Cities approach by leveraging its expertise in multiple areas of research and teaching relevant to children and links with the children's sector locally and nationally. **Child Friendly Liverpool** is a significant opportunity for the University to have a major impact on the health and wellbeing of current and future generations of children in Liverpool.

The University of Liverpool's excellence in infectious disease research has been recognised in the national Science and Innovation Audit as one of the three Research and Development priorities for Liverpool City Region. Together with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, our expertise constitutes the UK's largest concentration in translational-focused research, development and innovation in infectious diseases. The city region hosts a range of facilities supporting this world-leading status including the Royal Liverpool University Hospital Trust, with a specialist infectious diseases ward, and the University's internationally renowned multi-disciplinary **Open Innovation Hub for Antimicrobial Surfaces**. This already has major industry engagement with eight multinationals, more than forty SMEs and a demonstrable commercialisation pathway with four patents registered. £1.8m of Single Investment Funding has also been granted to the **Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases Research** to deliver further civic benefit from our research capabilities.



**GETTING PEOPLE
INTO EMPLOYMENT**

Opening doors to the future

With 23,000 undergraduate and graduate students studying a wide range of academic disciplines on campus, we are committed to creating opportunities for all students. And we are proud of our reputation as one of the most successful Russell Group universities in widening participation to higher education. The University of Liverpool is ranked first in the Russell Group for the recruitment of students from low participation neighbourhoods and third for the recruitment of students from state schools and colleges.

Almost one quarter of our full time Home students come from widening participation neighbourhoods. Every year we work with over 11,000 local young people in 130 local schools to improve progression to higher education. We work with Year 5 to Year 13, starting with raising aspirations and confidence building in the younger years and moving on to attainment raising, mentoring and supported access schemes for older age groups. Over 120 students a year enter the University on a supported access programme. We also provide bespoke support for students who have experienced a disrupted education including Care Leavers and Young Adult Carers. In total we provide over £11m in financial support for 41% of full time Home students, 6,200 students annually.

Our UK undergraduates have the highest rate of employment six months after graduating of all the Russell Group universities (*DLHE 2015/16*). Helping our students to find employment within the Liverpool City Region through the work of our Careers and Employability team is amongst the most important ways in which we support the region's social and economic development. We provide events for local businesses and public sector organisations to recruit students and graduates for part and full-time jobs and support local businesses and other organisations across the region in providing access to high-level graduate skills.

In addition, targeted recruitment activities and bespoke internship programmes are currently being developed, specifically with high-growth companies in Sci-Tech Daresbury and Alderley Park. We provide opportunities for local young people to work at the University through our apprenticeship programme, the most successful of its type in the university sector. We also support a range of high-growth start-ups and the development of regional skills strategies with local employer federations

including the local Chambers of Commerce. Through our presence in China and London, we raise the profile of Liverpool City Region with major employers and investors.

The University's **Pre-Apprenticeship Programme** offers 10 individuals per year the opportunity to take part in a training programme that offers six months' paid employment at National Minimum Wage. Participants are required to attend Knowsley Community College to gain maths and English qualifications to enable them to apply for an apprenticeship at the University. Each of the individuals we recruit is classed as NEET (Not in Employment Education or Training) and 16-17 years old. In 2014, six completed the programme and all individuals were offered apprenticeships within the University. They all went on to complete their apprenticeships. Four found employment at the University, one winning 'Apprentice of the Year' in 2015 and another shortlisted in 2017. 36 individuals have benefited from participating on the programme with many securing apprenticeships.

The University launched its **Apprenticeship Programme** in 2011. Since then we have recruited almost 200 new apprentices from Liverpool City Region in engineering, plumbing, joinery, animal care, business and administration, laboratory, horticulture, IT, and social media. Apprentices have helped the University to develop new skills and address skill shortages and are supporting our succession plans. 62% of our apprentices have found employment at the University or progressed to employment or further education elsewhere. The University apprenticeship programme was awarded the Universities Human Resources Winner for Exceptional HR Achievement in 2014.

Liverpool Volition is based at Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral and supported by the University of Liverpool. Its primary purpose is to improve people's lives by supporting them into employment, education or another volunteering placement. It is open to all, regardless of religious faith or background. Volunteers are referred by Jobcentre Plus and are required to attend presentations, complete an application form, attend 1-2-1 interviews and participate in a 10-week course which works intensively on their communication, teamwork and presentation skills.

The University has established a new partnership with a local social enterprise, Transform Lives Company (TLC). Together we launched the **GiveGetGo Volunteering Programme** (*give time, get skills,*

go places!). We provide volunteering roles on the University campus, offering people who are not in work opportunities to gain work-related skills training, together with interview practice and volunteer mentors. TLC provides two days of wrap-around, unlimited support; ongoing and personalised job search; face-to-face time and access to health and personal development opportunities. Individuals who complete the programme are offered guaranteed interviews for roles they apply for, providing they meet the essential criteria. So far, the University has offered 35 volunteering placements. The wider programme has seen 75 people complete the GiveGetGo programme, 32 found employment, and 18 of these had work placements at the University. A further eight have gone on to further training.

Liverpool has some of the most economically deprived communities in the country, with persistently low levels of educational ambition and attainment. The University is committed to raising aspirations and opening new opportunities. For example **IntoUniversity North Liverpool** provides aspiration-raising activities and academic support for up to 1,000 local students per year. Co-funded by donations from University of Liverpool alumni, who volunteer their time at the centre, the Liverpool Football Club (LFC) Foundation and national charity IntoUniversity, the activities, delivered by trained staff and University undergraduate volunteers, are given to a range of students from primary age to sixth form. Anfield is one of Liverpool's most deprived areas with very low levels of educational attainment and resident graduates. The unique partnership with the LFC Foundation helps to inspire boys in the area, prioritised by the Office for Fair Access as a group under-represented at university.

The University's **Scholars Programme** supports local students from under-represented backgrounds with applications and entry to the University of Liverpool and the wider higher education sector. It prepares students for successful transition to higher education and consists of a range of academic activities to help prepare students for university, build confidence and enhance applications. Each student is supported by an academic tutor. Students who enter the Scholars Programme are high-attaining and from neighbourhoods where progression to higher education is low. White males and care leavers are well represented on the programme and there are a high proportion of Black and Minority Ethnic students. Since the programme began in 2009, 82% of the Scholars who have graduated from the University of Liverpool have received a First Class or 2:1 degree. And we provide support for Scholars to progress to graduate employment or postgraduate study.

The University has received approval from the Department of Education to establish a specialist maths school which will provide world-leading maths education for young people from all backgrounds who have a passion for mathematics. Set to become the first of its kind in the north of England, the **University of Liverpool Mathematics School** will welcome up to 80 pupils per year to study maths, further maths and physics A levels with other subjects, including computer science and music, under consideration. Pupils will have the opportunity to boost their skills and learn from staff and students in the University's Department of Mathematical Sciences.

Working in partnership with local schools to raise aspirations and attainment levels in mathematics across the region, it will provide

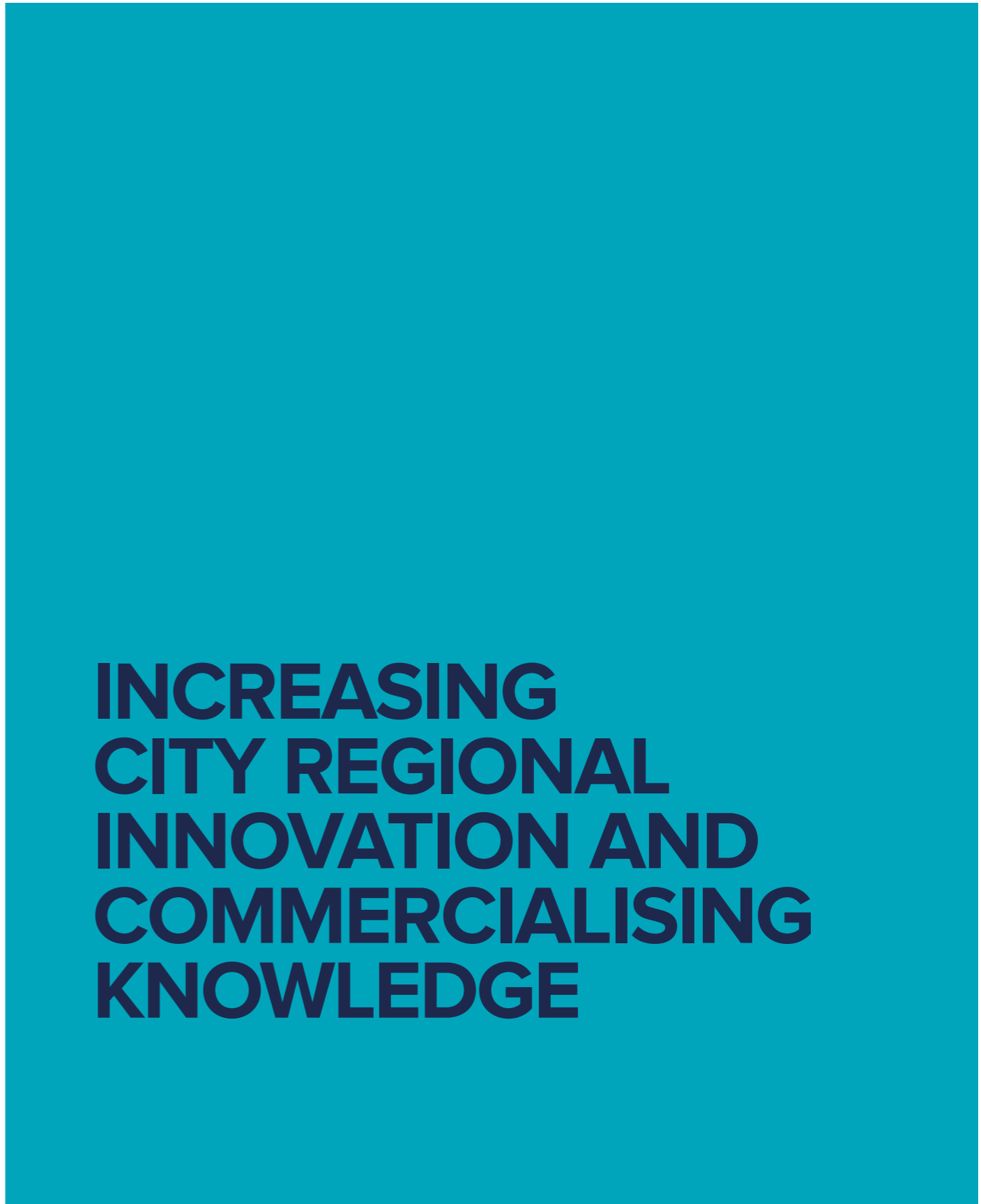
professional development programmes for maths teachers throughout the city region. It will also seek to address the gender imbalance that exists in the study of mathematics and will work with employers in the region to establish partnerships, giving pupils the chance to gain business experience and the opportunity to see how their skills will support their career choices.

In Liverpool City Region many secondary schools' GCSE, A level and BTEC results fall significantly below the national average. To help address this, the University launched the **School Governor Initiative**. This supplements existing outreach activities in local schools and contributes to the leadership of schools by engaging the expertise and enthusiasm of our staff. The University works with two organisations, Governors for Schools and Inspiring Governance, to identify vacancies and match volunteers. We have an online 'School Governor Zone' for training and online resources, a network for the sharing of best practice and a mentoring programme that links experienced and new governors.

The **Liverpool Law Clinic** is an in-house legal practice and forms part of the School of Law and Social Justice. It provides our students with a unique educational experience, improving their employability by involving them in the provision of high-quality legal advice and representation for the public. We offer a generic advice module, supervised by a full-time in-house solicitor, in which students interview a client under the supervision of one of our volunteer solicitors and compile a letter of legal advice. The majority of cases involve employment, family, housing, debt and consumer issues. We also offer a specialised statelessness, immigration and asylum module in which students undertake related cases. The Clinic is one of only two organisations in the UK offering a specialised service to stateless clients. Every year, students participate in one of our distinctive pro bono projects. Almost 100 students have so far taken part in an award-winning Hillsborough Project to support local law firm Broudie Jackson Canter, which represents 20 of the families bereaved in the Hillsborough stadium disaster.

Interchange is a pioneering charity housed within the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool. For more than 20 years it has amassed knowledge and expertise on pedagogical approaches useful to Voluntary Community Organisations (VCOs) and beneficial to social science students. Interchange links students wanting to engage in social research with VCOs in Merseyside facing challenges and problems that require research evidence. In 21 years, Interchange has involved more than 400 University of Liverpool students in 376 projects with around 270 collaborations with VCOs. Students have collaborated on a wide range of different subjects, including domestic violence, homelessness, racism, mental health, and offending. Projects can take the form of evaluation reports, oral histories, feasibility studies, case studies, policy analyses, or literature reviews. Because of the success, many VCOs return in subsequent years with new projects or submit proposals to update data and information gathered in previous years. Each year, from January to June, Interchange invites VCOs to submit proposals for projects. VCOs are contacted by drawing on the Interchange database and using local voluntary sector networks.





Investing in world class innovation

The University makes its research and expertise available to support the ambitions of a wide range of local businesses and enterprises across the private and public sector.

Knowledge Quarter Liverpool (KQ Liverpool), a 450-acre Mayoral Development Zone, is home to some of the world's most influential players in science, health, technology, education, music and the creative and performing arts. With over £1 billion of new developments recently completed or underway – and a further £1 billion in the pipeline – KQ Liverpool is bringing forward new development opportunities, successfully attracting new investment, increasing the city's employment figures, improving graduate attraction and retention rates and establishing Liverpool City Region as a key player in the Northern Powerhouse.

A new company has been created, by Liverpool City Council, the University and Liverpool John Moores University, alongside a private sector investor, to oversee investment and development in science and technology buildings across Liverpool. The Knowledge Quarter Development Company, **Sciortec Liverpool** will be responsible for updating the area's science and technology facilities and delivering new workspace and lab developments.

KQ Liverpool has attracted the **Royal College of Physicians** to Liverpool, leading to the launch of The Spine. It is the first speculatively built Grade A office space for almost ten years. It is working with Liverpool City Council to launch the KQ Gateway masterplan. Major developments include Accelerator, a bioscience incubator, offering unrivalled access to both of its partners - the NHS and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. **University of Liverpool International College**, a partnership between Kaplan and the University of Liverpool, brings 35,000 sq ft of education and learning facilities and up to 750 residential bed spaces to the site. Proton Partners International are establishing **The Rutherford Cancer Centre North West**, a proton beam cancer therapy treatment hospital as well as an advanced diagnostics centre.

The University's **Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Food Systems** is a collaboration between academics created to address real world issues affecting both humans and animals. The new **Centre of Excellence in Infectious Disease Research**, a partnership between the University and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, focuses on translational partnering in infectious diseases.

Opened in 2017, on the campus of the University, the **Materials Innovation Factory (MIF)** is a £81 million partnership between the University of Liverpool, Unilever and the former Higher Education Funding Council for England to develop a unique materials chemistry research hub. It provides an unparalleled suite of state-of-the-art equipment and internationally-leading academic expertise. One of its primary goals is to establish connections and break down the barriers between researchers and establish a vibrant dynamic research community. By providing open access to equipment, whether to an SME in St Helens or a large multinational on the Wirral, the MIF provides opportunities for local industry to accelerate their discovery process and ultimately reduce time to market, delivering clear economic benefits to the region. The MIF technical team guides users on how best to maximise the benefits of access to a truly differentiated equipment set, consisting of high throughput robotic technologies and high-end analytical equipment. The MIF also provides a route for businesses to partner with others experiencing the same scientific challenges, helping to promote collaborative research or secure inward investment into the city region.

Physically this manifests itself in its location at the heart of Liverpool's Knowledge Quarter, and in its award-winning design, with shared lab spaces, places set aside for networking and 'research hotels' which allow external collaborators to embed themselves within the building. However, the physical environment is only an enabler. Fundamentally the success of the MIF will be driven by its staff and users in the development of creative approaches to problem-solving. The MIF has expanded our academic network, bolstering our internationally recognised academic leadership with an additional nine early stage career academics across several disciplines.



Artist impression of the Digital Innovation Facility

The multidisciplinary nature of the MIF research portfolio, allied to the unique approaches in using robotics and computer aided technologies to accelerate the discovery process, provides a golden opportunity to inspire the next generation of materials chemists. This is crucial to meet the needs of longer-term growth and development within the city region. Working as part of the University widening participation scheme, the MIF has already hosted more than 100 pupils from local schools and colleges.

The **Digital Innovation Facility (DIF)**, within the University of Liverpool's city centre campus, will be a centre of excellence in simulation and virtual reality, bringing together complementary areas of research of computer science, robotics and engineering. With the construction of a new 1,530 sq m facility that will enable collaborative research and development and the ability to foster and grow businesses, the DIF will focus on three particular priority sectors where Liverpool City Region has competitive advantage - advanced manufacturing and engineering, low carbon energy, and digital industries - as well as other significant growth sectors including health. Through collaboration between business and academia, the DIF is forecast to create approximately 400 jobs over a 10 year period, while boosting the city region economy by £44.5 million.

Sensor City is a joint initiative between the University and Liverpool John Moores University, establishing a collaborative space for sensors and sensor systems innovation. It brings together a diverse community of entrepreneurs, innovators and inventors, developing creative solutions that will lead to substantial social and economic impact. One of the earliest developments to emerge from this collaborative space are

new health and social care solutions that could radically change the way that current health-related services are delivered. Sensor City will create devices to aid independent living for the ageing population, reducing the demand for acute medical services. This is underpinned by Sensor City's leading one of the UK's national 5G testbeds in health and social care. The unique facilities allow rapid progression of ideas generated either from the collaborative space, or from SMEs or individuals, into new prototype sensor devices and systems. 3-D printing and specialist electronic equipment permit technical solutions that can facilitate these novel solutions.

Our **Virtual Engineering Centre (VEC)** leads in the integration and exploitation of virtual engineering technologies such as advanced modelling and simulation. It helps improve business performance and competitiveness through the evaluation, application and adoption of digital tools and techniques. Examples of collaboration include working with Bentley, who used VEC facilities and expertise when designing their new SUV and benefited from a reduction in product development time of six months. This project was supported as part of the three-year collaborative Simulation Tools for Rapid Innovation in Vehicle Engineering (STRIVE) project, which has created 457 new jobs within the partner organisations and supply chain, including many newly-developed roles.

These investments in the human and capital infrastructure of the city region already make a huge contribution to increasing its economic competitiveness and the overall health and wellbeing of its different groups, communities and places. We plan to make an even greater contribution in future.



**PROMOTING
THOUGHT
LEADERSHIP,
CULTURE, HERITAGE**



Steve Rotherham, Metro Mayor for Liverpool City Region, took part in a panel discussion at our Open House Festival chaired by Professor Michael Parkinson, an expert in city regional affairs

Thought leadership, culture and heritage

We play a major thought leadership role, providing discussion of the major issues facing the city region.

The **Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place** is the University's city-facing, public policy research institute. It brings together academic expertise from across the University with policy-makers and practitioners in Liverpool City Region to support the development of successful, sustainable cities and city regions. The Institute has a particular focus on former industrial cities in the midst of regeneration such as Liverpool City Region. It publishes policy reports, holds debates and convenes seminars and conferences on key issues and challenges in the city region, building and strengthening academic-practitioner and policy-making networks. It also provides consultancy and advice to many public, private and third sector organisations in the city region.

The Institute's most recent research has looked at: housing regeneration, the scale, scope and value of the city region social economy, graduate mobility, inclusive growth and the need for a local Liverpool City Region industrial strategy, retail regeneration and the potential of the River Mersey to generate energy. Looking ahead, the Institute will undertake research on the diversity of leadership in cities across the UK as well as continuing its work on the social economy in Liverpool City Region, balanced regional development and inclusive growth and the disproportionate impacts Brexit will have on Northern cities.

The University hosts a wide range of events and activities designed to provide members of the wider public with opportunities to engage

with our research, or to debate issues of topical concern including our **'Science and Society'** series, which address the underlying theme of the inter-dependencies of science and society. Our annual **Open House Festival** provides a popular programme of free public events, held across the campus – including Liverpool Pint of Science, where more than 50 University of Liverpool and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine scientists took to the stage in pubs across the city centre to discuss their research.

The **Liverpool Guild of Students** works extensively with the wider Liverpool community to make a positive contribution to the city. From attending local residents' groups to working with local charities, and from supporting student volunteering to holding events in the city, our students play an active role in civic life.

Volunteering Liverpool is an online platform where UK-registered charities with opportunities in Merseyside can promote their volunteering opportunities so that students and non-students can apply for them. More than 340 local organisations are currently registered. Opportunities are promoted in the weekly *Volunteering Liverpool* newsletter and registered charities can participate in Guild activities such as volunteering fairs, sessions at the Careers Service, or our Give It A Go programme. Each year the Guild partners with four charities working in the local area, providing volunteering and fundraising opportunities for the student body. In 2016-7, over £15,000 was raised, in addition to the £64,000 raised for other UK registered charities by Guild societies.

Reduce, reuse, recycle is a major theme. In 2017-18 our volunteers worked to collect over 800 bags of unwanted items at the end of the academic year from halls of residence and student accommodation. This

generated over £11,000 for the British Heart Foundation in its 16 shops in Liverpool. In addition, several tons of waste were diverted from landfill.

One of the most influential ways in which the University supports the development of Liverpool City Region is through its extensive contributions to cultural and heritage-related activities. We have productive partnerships with cultural organisations in Liverpool which encourage connections between academics and curators and staff from a range of areas of expertise.

After the success of Liverpool's year as 2008 European Capital of Culture, the **Institute of Cultural Capital** established a strategic collaboration between the University of Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores University. The Institute led a five-year research programme culminating in a report, 'Impacts 08', which demonstrated the scale of the economic and social benefit created by the cultural events of the year.

The University was an over-arching city partner for Liverpool 2018, and the official education partner for the China Dream season. Our contributions included a major literary festival with lectures, readings and discussions from Val McDermid, Sir Tony Robinson, Sebastian Barry and Frank Cottrell Boyce, together with a range of family events. We also provided student volunteer engagement, lectures at the World Museum in association with the Terracotta Warriors exhibition, support for musical and other events in the city, exhibitions in the University's Victoria Gallery & Museum, a short story competition for University's students and local schoolchildren and participation in events at Tate Liverpool. We are also represented on the Mayor's World Heritage Status Task Force.

The **Liverpool Confucius Institute** is a collaborative project between the University of Liverpool, Xi'an Jiaotong University and the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban), dedicated to the promotion of Chinese language and culture. The Institute is a focal point for all China-related activity in Merseyside, working closely with a range of schools and colleges, local businesses, community groups and

individuals to promote Chinese language and culture in the city region.

Our award-winning **Tate Liverpool Partnership** aims to broaden participation in art and culture and increase our impact among diverse audiences. One of the unique aspects of our partnership is its ability to bring a rich variety of research perspectives to Tate Liverpool's exhibitions. From our computer scientists working with the robots in a Cécile B. Evans exhibition, to our Egyptologists inspiring creative responses to the Book of the Dead, Liverpool academics have been able to share expertise as well as find ways of broadening their own research through engagement with the Tate. Our work with Tate Liverpool has been particularly successful in inspiring participation from across the University. Collaborative projects enable academics and students from a range of departments, including computer science, archaeology and linguistics, to take advantage of opportunities to enrich their cultural and educational experiences.

The University has a strong relationship with **National Museums Liverpool** (NML), which includes the World Museum, the Walker Art Gallery, the Museum of Liverpool, the Maritime Museum, the International Slavery Museum, the Lady Lever Art Gallery, and Sudley House. This relationship has given rise to a range of recent initiatives, including the 'Meet the Scientists' programme, which shares our Faculty of Health and Life Sciences research with a family audience through hands-on activities and experiments designed by researchers, and research engagement with a series of forthcoming exhibitions in the World Museum and the Maritime Museum.

We have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with NML which will provide mutual support for the loan of artefacts and the exchange of knowledge; the implementation of research activities, public engagement and outreach; and help around increasing participation in higher education for under-represented groups.





HOW DOES OUR FUTURE LOOK?

This report has shown the University, as an anchor institution, already has wide-ranging and successful programmes which support the social and economic development of the city region. We have much to be proud of in this area of our activity.

OUR COMMITMENT

“ We will continue to lead the public debate about the future development of the city region. We will put the intellectual and social capital of our people at the disposal of city regional leaders. We will continue to invest, educate, offer opportunity and remain open in a global world. We welcome more partnerships with more organisations. Our commitment for today and for the future matches and reinforces that made by the founders of the University.”

Professor Michael Parkinson CBE

“ We've identified the many ways in which staff and students at the University already contribute to the health, wellbeing and economic success of the Liverpool City Region and are delighted that the new Civic University Agreement recognises the value of this work and encourages its future development.”

Professor Dinah Birch CBE

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We rely on our staff, students and city regional partners to help us invest and offer opportunities. There are many different ways you can support our civic engagement work.

For further information contact:
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Copies of the report can be accessed at:
liverpool.ac.uk/civic-engagement