

## SCIENCE

Glasgow sits firmly in the centre of a rich and varied Life Science offer from the West of Scotland. The area provides access to specialised facilities and expertise in drug discovery, bioinformatics, regenerative medicine, translational research, clinical trials and medical technology. The universities in the region teach nearly 22,000 students in life science subjects and produce over 5,000 first degree life science graduates per year.

Scottish Enterprise's Life Science Sourcebook records 233 companies employing over 10,300 people in the West of Scotland. This equates to 36% of Scottish Life Science companies including 50% of Scotland's medical technology companies. Choosing to locate in the area are global organisations like GlaxoSmithKline and Life Technologies, contract research organisations (BioOutsource, SP Drug Discovery) and medical technology companies (e.g. Vascutek, Ohmedics, Mode Diagnostics and Lightweight Medical Ltd). The area also offers a full range of specialist professional support services (lawyers, patent agents, engineers, architects, business consultants).

Five Science Parks provide a choice of specialised facilities for companies at all stages of development (BioCity Scotland in Newhouse, West of Scotland Science Park and Hillington Park Innovation Centre in Glasgow, Ayrshire Innovation Park in Irvine and Scottish Enterprise Technology Park in East Kilbride). The Scottish Government's Life Science enterprise area in Irvine provides a range of incentives attractive to private investors including business rates discounts and new planning protocols.

The West of Scotland also offers industry the opportunity to work collaboratively with the public sector and academia. The £1bn New South Glasgow Hospitals Campus has the NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Bio-repository – the biggest bio-repository in Europe offering access to tissue and clinical data and Glasgow Biomedicine brings together the University of Glasgow and six Glasgow hospital sites creating an integrated, interdisciplinary centre of excellence for the management and execution of both non-commercial and commercial clinical trials research. Forty-one percent of Scotland's population (2.3m) live within Glasgow Biomedicine's catchment area. The campus's Teaching and Learning Facility is the preferred location for the proposed Stratified Medicine Scotland Innovation Centre – a revolutionary example of collaboration across industry, academia and the public sector.

