Welcome to techUK’s Health and Social Care Programme

Representing hundreds of technology companies in the health and social care sector
Building networks

Connecting you with your peers and potential customers at our events – from conferences and dinners to market briefings and working groups, webinars and roundtables, come together with like-minded individuals.

Informed opinion

Sign up for our newsletters, listen to our podcast, read our reports and news to keep across all the latest news and views from techUK, our members and our stakeholders.

Raising your profile

We work with you to share your compelling content through our campaigns, positioning papers, reports, podcasts, videos and events and much more.
Who we are
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.

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Some of our members working to shape the health and social care sector include:
What do we deliver?
Our work falls broadly into two categories:

1. Policy advocacy
2. Market engagement

Across these areas we have held over 40 events during the past year, providing opportunities for valuable engagement with key stakeholders and other members.
We provide the means to formulate and articulate industry positions to Government.

We provide a structured environment in which technology companies from across the health and social care sector can come together to articulate policy positions on behalf of the industry. techUK advocates these positions to key stakeholders within the NHS, central Government, local authorities, and other key bodies such as the MHRA, PRSB, NICE and many more.

In February 2021, we published our Ten Point Plan for Healthtech, a paper that we worked on in the second part of 2020 with our members. The report outlines 10 recommendations to strengthen the UK’s reputation for healthtech.

Since then, we have published a new report focusing on what Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) should prioritise to make digital, data and technology work for them and their populations, helping to ensure the new statutory bodies get it right from the start.

Over the past year we have worked with members to:

- publish techUK’s report on Integrated Care Systems
- feed in to the Plan for Digital Health and Social Care
- Respond to the NICE consultation on the ESF for digital health technologies
- respond to the NHS draft National Data Strategy for Health and Social Care
- respond to the NHSX draft National Strategy for AI in Health and Social Care
- respond to the MHRA Consultation on the Future Regulation of Medical Devices, looking in particular at the regulation of software as a medical device (SaMD).
For techUK and its members, 2020 was a year where we saw significant change in the health system’s approach to adopting technology and innovation.

To build on this momentum, we drafted a list of 10 recommendations, informed by our regular engagement with members, our Health and Social Care Council, our strategic partnership with NHS Digital, work with NHSX, the Professional Record Standards Body (PRSB), Health Education England, the NHS Digital Academy, INTEROPen, and more, brought together in what we the Ten Point Plan for Healthtech.

This report provides a breakdown of what our members see as the biggest challenges in the space and a set of recommendations for how we can drive progress.

We have seen many of our recommendations addressed over the past year, including our call for ICSs to be placed on statutory footing in the Health and Care Bill, streamlining of standards and frameworks to ease the procurement process, and several others tackled recently in the Laura Wade-Gery Review.
Having looked at how the UK could strengthen healthtech nationally, we turned our attention to a local level.

ICSs 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.

This report highlighted the key areas in which 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.

The 5 recommendations centred on:
1. Helping citizens take control of their health and care
2. Embedding demand-signalling
3. Fostering innovation through procurement
4. Prioritising interoperability and data
5. Creating an open and transparent environment for collaboration.
techUK have had a strategic partnership in place with NHS Digital since 2017, and work closely with Nic Fox, the Chief Commercial Officer, and his team.

Through this, techUK is NHS Digital’s go to partner for any market engagement activities, be it workshops, conferences, or consultations.

Our partnership with NHS Digital is an example of best practice for industry engagement across the public sector.

In addition to NHS Digital, we also work closely with NHSX and NHS England and Improvement, and with other stakeholders across the space, holding procurement days which give our members foresight of upcoming opportunities.

As NHSX and NHS Digital begin their transition into the Transformation Directorate at NHS England, we will be working closely with key figures to ensure the relationship built with industry over the past years is maintained.
Our Health and Social Care Industry Dinners provide a forum for industry to come together to have an informal dialogue around the realities of digital transformation and technology in health and social care.

The evening includes informal networking opportunities with representatives from across the industry and keynote speeches from senior figures in the healthcare sector.

The event provides a significant platform for businesses in the sector to gain visibility, reach key industry stakeholders and is an excellent opportunity to network with members of techUK Health and Social Care Programme (all dedicated in driving innovation in the industry through the smart use of new intelligent technology).
In 2021, the Health & Social Care team made it a core part of our programme to look at the state of digital transformation across the UK, focusing on how we can work with members stakeholders across England the devolved nations to best support digital innovation in this sector through all regions.

Having provided opportunities for our members to speak to the Scottish Government, Welsh Government, regional services such as the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, and representatives from ICSs across the North West, West Midlands, and South East, we are using our learnings to continue to drive forward digital transformation in health and care in 2022.

You can read about the findings of our work so far on the techUK website.
How do we deliver?
Health and Social Care Council

The Council meet regularly to develop and lead the techUK Health & Social Care Programme, bringing focus to our healthcare policy work, and to the programme’s activities, representing the wider membership.

➢ The Council’s priorities are informed by techUK’s Ten Point Plan for Healthtech and provides a valuable platform for both thought leadership and driving forward our relationships with key stakeholders.

➢ The Council is devised of 23 members, elected by the wider techUK membership, which each member sitting for 3 years. Once elected, the council set the strategic direction for the Health & Social Care Programme.

➢ The Council is made of both SMEs and larger organisations, and is currently led by Andreas Haimboeck-Tichy, Shane Tickell, and Liz Ashall-Payne.

➢ The full list of members currently elected to the Council includes:

- Accenture
- Altera
- AWS
- Big Health
- BJSS
- Dedalus
- Dell-EMC
- Docobo
- EMIS Health
- Softcat
- IBM
- Temple Black
- Inhealthcare
- InterSystems
- Microsoft
- Mills & Reeve
- ORCHA
- CMM
- Patients Know Best
- LOOP
- PwC
- Tunstall (Social Care Working Group representative)
Andreas Haimböck-Tichy – Chair, MD, Accenture  

“Through the council meetings and industry events we have moved to a better dialogue and collaborative working with our public sector colleagues. In 2022 we will build on this, getting involved earlier in creating the solutions to the challenges the Health and Care Sector face as well as influencing policy to help develop an even stronger UK Health Tech Sector.”

Liz Ashall-Payne – Vice-Chair, CEO, ORCHA  

“In my role as Vice-Chair of the Council I have the opportunity to speak out about the value of digital health and lobby policy makers about the importance of setting up the building blocks of a digital health system. techUK has a pivotal role in enabling the next phase of this work across the NHS.”

Shane Tickell – Vice-Chair, CEO, Temple Black  

“As a Council we are a close partner to the NHS, giving advice and acting as an open channel to industry for discussion and cooperation. I am also passionate about the work we do to help companies of all sizes perform at their best and highlight their value to customers. I have a particular passion for helping SMEs to not just perform but to partner.”
Interoperability Working Group

The Interoperability Working Group exists to unleash the possibilities of joined up health and care data. As part of our ongoing programme of work, this group operates closely with organisations such as NHS England, NHS Digital, INTEROPen and the PRSB.

The Group is currently chaired by David Hancock, Healthcare Executive Advisor at InterSystems, who is supported by Vice Chair Kelly Gaddes from Civica.

Key priorities include showcasing best practice examples and working closely with stakeholders at NHS England, NHS Digital, the Professional Record Standards Body, INTEROPen and more.

We have also now published a refreshed version of our Interoperability Charter, which can be accessed here.

“This group has proved a great exercise for old hands and new entrants alike, especially as we bring to bear experience from other industries and get new perspectives on addressing interoperability. The group benefits from regular updates from NHSX and has detailed and focused discussions.” - David Hancock, Chair of Interoperability Working Group, InterSystems
Social Care Working Group

The Working Group acts a neutral forum for knowledge exchange across the supplier base and for public sector stakeholders to engage with the market. We identify common challenges and solutions and offer the opportunity to leverage partnerships.

The Working Group also provides members with the chance to connect with national and local stakeholders, such as NHS England’s Digital Adult Social Care team, and ADASS, to better understand their digital vision and challenges.

We ensure members are better informed of the problems their buyers face, and how their solutions can help solve such problems.

“Never before has there been so much public interest in social care, and sadly the challenges facing both adults and children’s services have never been greater. techUK have established a strong coalition of organisations which share a desire to use digital technologies to improve outcomes for people and to support practitioners across the social care ecosystem.” – Helena Zaum, Social Care Working Group Chair, Microsoft
The Social Care Innovation Hub showcases the innovative work of our members and serves as a valuable resource for organisations across industry and beyond.

It includes a repository of news, member ‘show & tell’ videos, podcast episodes, reports and government strategies and legislation, all of which concern the intersection between innovative technologies and practices and the UK’s social care sector.

The Hub reflects the commitment, set out by techUK’s Social Care Working Group, to achieving parity of esteem between health and social care.

You can check out our Social Care Innovation Hub.
Life Sciences Forum

techUK have launched a new Life Sciences Forum, bringing together our members actively working in drug discovery, digital therapeutics, data and AI, or those interested in moving into this space.

As the Life Sciences sector looks to introduce digital health technologies into its portfolio, techUK are shaping the conversation.

We have now established a dedicated workstream within the programme to represent the industry, working closely with the Office for Life Sciences and other key bodies.

You can check out our Life Sciences Hub.

“Joining techUK is a great opportunity for Bayer to continue to enhance its plans beyond our scientific expertise and to fully embrace the potential of digital to support us in delivering innovative therapies to patients quickly and as efficiently as possible.” – Nigel Brokenshire, Head of Digital Health, UK Bayer
In partnership with NHSX and NHS Digital, we held a series of events over 2021 looking at the programme of frontline digitisation set to take place over the next few years, aiming to accelerate the uptake of foundational technology needed to underpin digital transformation.

These sessions have continued in 2022 and we have now formed a working group. Previous sessions have focussed on the publication of What Good Looks Like and Who Pays for What, the Digital Aspirant Plus Programme, and the first ever national EPR usability survey.

Speakers have included:
- David Howie, NHSX Chief Commercial Officer
- Dermot Ryan, NHSX Director of Frontline Digitisation
- Anna Hawksley, NHSX Assistant Director of Programmes
Thank you