

1. RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Our Highest ROI

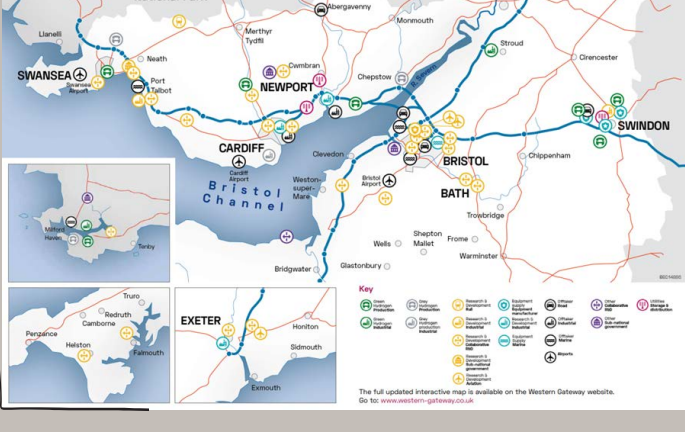
GW4 has invested £3.2m in supporting over 100 collaborative research and innovation communities which have generated a significant grant income of £64m.

This means that for every £1 GW4 spends on collaborative research and innovation communities, GW4 captures £20 in external research awards - our highest return on investment to date.



Mapped our Region's Hydrogen Ecosystem

In partnership with Western Gateway we unveiled a new vision for why our region is ready to turbocharge the development of a Hydrogen Ecosystem, and lead the development of low carbon energy to help reach climate change goals.



We also launched a new interactive online map demonstrating the breadth and scale of hydrogen activity, and how this could power green and inclusive growth.

GW4 Climate and AMR

The GW4 Climate Alliance launched a new project to establish a 'Living Labs' network across GW4.

The project aims to accelerate the transition towards net zero university campuses – a process that will impact many activities including research, learning and teaching, on-site operations, and supply chains.

A GW4 led international antimicrobial resistance (AMR) research community was awarded £50K by the global coordinator the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance (JPIAMR) to investigate the spread of AMR by exploring how the resistance genes spread on plasmids.



2. TALENT AND SKILLS

ECR Network

Over 500 early career researchers signed up to the British Academy ECR Network South West Hub, which GW4 officially launched with a networking and panel session.

The GW4 universities of Bath, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter are leading the network together with a consortium of five other universities – Bath Spa, Bournemouth, Gloucestershire, Plymouth and UWE.

Awarded funding to 18 Humanities and Social Sciences researchers from across the network to explore new ideas and partnerships, with the aim of securing external funding.

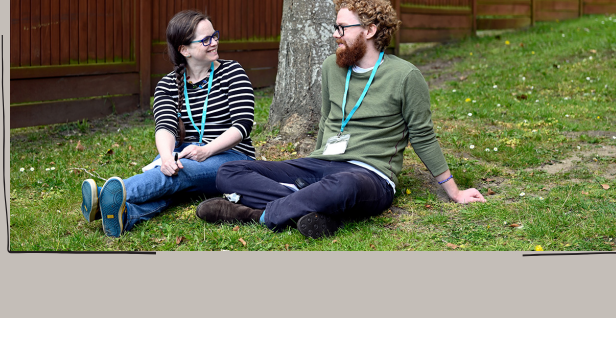


GW4 Crucible

Selected 30 future research leaders to take part in GW4 Crucible 2022.

These researchers explored new interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to this year's theme 'Building Back Better: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Mental Health and Wellbeing Research'.

We awarded seed funding to five collaborative GW4 Crucible projects aiming to tackle the challenges of poor mental health and autistic identity.



GW4WARD

Launched the GW4WARD Collaboration Fund to help enable collaborative professional development and training activities across the Alliance, as well as thematic community building around technical specialisms.

The scheme supports the aims of GW4WARD – to enhance the visibility and development of the 1,300 technical staff employed across GW4's universities, who play a vital role in supporting research, teaching and daily operational requirements.



3. BUILDING COMMUNITIES

GW4 Generator Fund

Announced £125K funding for seven new research and innovation communities under the GW4 Generator Fund.

These collaborative research groups are tackling some of society's biggest global challenges, including sustainable net zero transport systems and antimicrobial resistance.



Three generations of GW4 research and innovation communities also came together to share their experiences at the GW4 Generator Showcase and Launch Event.

GW4 Development Awards

We also launched the GW4 Development Awards to support new, and advance existing, collaborations across GW4 by funding single activities or resources, such as stakeholder workshops or public engagement activities.

4. FUNDING WINS

Grant Awards

We secured major funding boosts this year, including grants from the Research England UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF).

Funding was awarded to research initiatives at the universities of Bath, Bristol and Exeter, as part of a £18.9 million investment to support the drive towards net zero.

5. INDUSTRY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

GW4 and Beyond

We have continued to strengthen relations with funders, major businesses, decision makers and local communities such as the Western Gateway and Hydrogen South West.

