

Candidate Information Pack



About the GW4 Alliance

Founded in 2013, GW4 is an alliance of four of the most research-intensive and innovative universities in the UK: **Bath**, Bristol, Cardiff and Exeter.

Collaboration is at the heart of everything we do and it makes us greater together than the sum of our parts. We work with other universities, businesses and civic bodies, acting as the anchor institutions to support a knowledge-intensive economy.

Our Value

- **We add value** by creating research and innovation that address some of the biggest challenges and priorities facing society. Our activities **inform policy** and attract investment to support **regional economic growth**, respond to **skills needs**, and raise the **national and international profile** of our universities.
- The GW4 universities contribute substantially to the global knowledge economy with a combined annual research income of over **£465 million and a £2.4 billion annual turnover**.
- Our universities employ over **13,000** academic staff and educate over **33,000** postgraduate and **82,000** undergraduate students.

Our Impact and Scale



GW4 universities have worked together with more than **400** business and non-academic partners to deliver **world-class research and innovation**.

25:1

Our **125** GW4-funded research communities have generated over **£87million** in external research income. A return on investment of **25:1**, for every **£1** invested by GW4.



We are the **only** research alliance to collaborate across **England and a devolved nation**.

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Our Strategic Priorities

GW4 interventions do not just focus on our areas of collective strength, but also consider how, together, we can best address major national and international policy and strategic priorities. Our shared research missions will add value in:

- Tackling global challenges through **advanced cyber and digital**
- Effective routes to accelerate the transition to **sustainable Net Zero**
- Capitalising on **creative communities to foster sociocultural growth**
- Advancing **health and wellbeing** research and innovation for all.



Work with us

As the University Alliance representing your constituency's university, we are proud to work with local and national stakeholders to provide co-created solutions and increase our impact.

GW4 would be happy to work with you in the following ways:

- **Support our campaign:** GW4 is campaigning to improve accessibility of further education by extending the current undergraduate Childcare Grant to include postgraduate students. You can find out more about our campaign on [our website](#).
- **Informing policy through collaborative research:** GW4 funds and supports collaborative research and innovation that provides insights that can help inform and shape policy. [Contact us](#) to find out more about how we can connect academics and policymakers.
- Sign up to the [GW4 Newsletter](#).

For more information:

- Email GW4 Public Affairs Lead, **Billy Davis**, via b.davis@gw4.ac.uk, info@gw4.ac.uk or telephone **07483964611**
- Follow GW4 on [LinkedIn](#) or [X](#)
- Read more about our [Strategic Vision 2023-2028](#) on our website www.gw4.ac.uk



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GW4 Case Study: GW-SHIFT



Established in 2023, 'GW-SHIFT: Great Western Supercluster of Hydrogen Impact for Future Technologies' brings together academic, civic and industry partners to unlock the huge potential of our region's hydrogen ecosystem.

GW-SHIFT will provide solutions for storage and distribution, transport, and the energy sector supporting up to 100,000 jobs by 2050.

With the support of the GW4 Alliance, in 2023, GW-SHIFT secured **£2.5million** from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) as part of a Place Based Impact Acceleration Account awards (PBIAA).

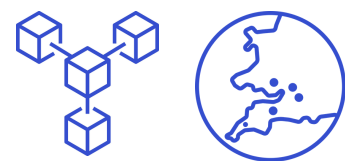
Led by the universities of Bath and Exeter, and delivered over 4-years, GW-SHIFT will support **innovative research** and activities to create a **thriving low carbon hydrogen supercluster** focusing on key areas such as production, storage and distribution, conversion, transport and energy.



GW-SHIFT will support the UK's transition to green hydrogen production, decarbonising transport and energy to **meet the UK's 2050 Net Zero target.**



World-class universities collaborating with civic organisation, industry partners, SMEs and stakeholder communities to deliver **high impact projects and innovation.**



Driving joined-up impact spanning multiple sectors (including maritime, road, rail, aerospace, chemicals) across our **region's unique testbed** of urban, rural, and coastal areas and resources.

Find out more about GW-SHIFT on the [GW4 website](#)

