

Meet Leicester

PRESS RELEASE

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UK Science Park Association to host autumn conference at Charnwood Campus in Loughborough

Around 150 members will attend major science and technology innovation conference from 15-16 September 2022

Charnwood Campus Science, Innovation and Technology Park in Loughborough will host the major UK Science Park Association (UKSPA) autumn conference from 15-16 September 2022. Around 150 UKSPA members will attend the two-day conference where leading speakers from the UKSPA network and key partners will discuss in depth challenges, opportunities, and innovative ways that the science park sector continues to further engage, inspire and grow.

Keynote speakers at the conference include The Office for Life Sciences, the Confederation of British Industry, (CBI), Loughborough University, Charnwood Molecular (a Charnwood Campus tenant), the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP) and the Midlands Engine.

Leicester and Leicestershire's connections with the scientific sector will be further strengthened as the British Science Association and De Montfort University are to host the British Science Festival, Europe's longest standing science Festival, in Leicester from 13-17 September 2022. The British Science Festival aims to connect people with scientists, engineers, technologists and social scientists with events being held on the University's campus, as well as at venues across the city, offering over 100 free activities for residents and visitors.

James Chaffer, UKSPA's Chief Executive, said: "We are delighted to hold our latest in-person event at Charnwood Campus. It's an exciting time to be visiting, with its world-class facilities Charnwood Campus is experiencing considerable growth in attracting world leaders in cutting-edge research. This, in addition to the many other initiatives such as the Charnwood Campus Life Sciences Talent and Skills Institute, highlight the vital role the Campus plays both regionally and nationally in knowledge sharing, networking and collaboration."

Gosia Khrais, Commercial Director at Charnwood Campus commented: “We are honoured to be hosting the UKSPA Autumn Conference at Charnwood Campus. It is a great opportunity for us to meet our colleagues from other science parks across the country and it also allows us to put a spotlight on the life sciences sector, the life sciences cluster in the region, and the economic importance that our sector brings to the local and national economy.

“It is not a coincidence that the annual UKSPA event and British Science Week are both hosted in this region this year. It sends a strong message that Leicestershire is ready to embrace and build on the mature life sciences ecosystem it is proud of.”

Samantha Hall, Business Tourism Manager at Meet Leicester, the official conference bureau for Leicester and Leicestershire, added: “The science, life science and innovation sectors are a vital part of Leicester and Leicestershire’s business ecosystem and we’re delighted that the UKSPA have selected Charnwood Campus for their autumn conference for members. The Campus is the ideal venue to host UKSPA members and its selection is testament to the destination’s expertise and credentials in this sector.”

About UK Science Park Association:

The UK Science Park Association (UKSPA) represents, promotes and supports a diverse network of members that includes science parks, research campuses, city-based innovation districts, technology incubators and innovation centres across the UK and beyond.

Around 120,000 people are employed on UKSPA member locations, delivering significant local, regional, national and international impact.

www.ukspa.org.uk

About Charnwood Campus:

Charnwood Campus is a 70-acre science, technology and enterprise park site located within the Loughborough and Leicester Science and Innovation Enterprise Zone.

Charnwood Campus offers more than 500,000 sq ft of high-tech accommodation, including world-class flexible laboratories, specialist manufacturing facilities and small and large office spaces, with a wide range of amenities and technical and clinical resources that meet the diverse needs of businesses from a variety of sectors, including healthcare, bioscience, medical equipment and devices, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology.

As the first UK Life Sciences Opportunity Zone, Charnwood Campus fosters an ecosystem of local business, leading research institutes and government organisations. This promotes business growth by simplifying access to support and accelerating the pathway from concept to commercialisation in the medical technology and biopharma sectors.

Charnwood Campus combines nature with modern facilities to create the ideal conditions for start-ups, SMEs and established enterprises to grow their businesses.

For further information, visit: <http://charnwoodcampus.com/>

About Meet Leicester:

Meet Leicester is a business tourism service for the city and county, funded by Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and the Leicester & Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership. The Meet Leicester team promotes the destination to conference and meetings organisers to generate additional business for hotels, conference and meetings venues.

Meet Leicester operates a free and impartial venue finding service, providing rates and availability for any event from 10 to 1,000 delegates. It will put together a full proposal of venues that are suitable for a specific event.

It represents a portfolio of diverse venues throughout the city and county from contemporary city centre hotels, to sporting venues and exclusive use country house hotels.

For further information on Meet Leicester, please visit www.meetleicester.co.uk or contact Samantha Hall, Business Tourism Manager at Meet Leicester: samantha.hall@leicester.gov.uk | 0116 4546150 m: 0776 2416981
Twitter: @LeicesterMeet | LinkedIn: Meet Leicester | Pinterest: @MeetLeicester | [YouTube](#)

Media contact:

Simon Gribbon, on behalf of Meet Leicester

T: 07990 583371

E: simon@sandstarcomms.com