

Civic University Agreement Signing

THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2023



CONTENTS

A civic university	4
The University's impact in numbers	6
An anchor institution	8
Connecting through community	10
Sharing knowledge, skills and expertise	12
Innovation to real-world impact	14

A CIVIC UNIVERSITY

The University's foundations and heritage have established it as a gateway to the world. Its success and that of the city are interlinked and as such, we are deeply committed to Southampton and the region.

As a university community, our shared purpose drives us to find answers to the greatest challenges facing humanity. We make a difference and achieve the remarkable through the combined power of our people, who achieve excellence and impact in education, research, and knowledge exchange and enterprise – our Triple Helix.

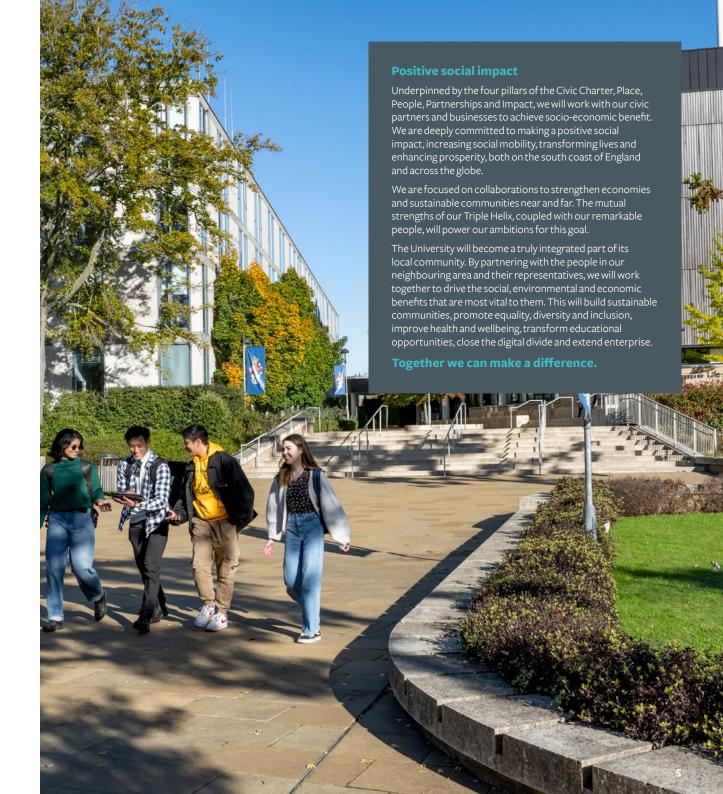
People at the heart

Our people are at the heart of everything we do and the impact we make on a local to global scale. We aim to inspire communities working with us to transform societies and we will work together to improve the lives and environment of people across diverse communities in a just and responsible way.

We are proud to be a powerful civic partner that met the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by deepening our partnerships with the University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, local authorities, and schools.

Working in partnership with our neighbouring universities, we will form Hampshire Universities Together, which will work with local communities covering Southampton, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester to enable us to:

- → share best practices on civic strategic ambitions
- align civic efforts and activity in more effective, collaborative ways of working
- identify opportunities where collective responses are needed



THE UNIVERSITY'S IMPACT IN NUMBERS

The University benefits communities and has a massive impact, both locally and regionally, as well as across the world. Look at how the University measures up.



78th

The University of Southampton is ranked 78th in the world¹



Top 15

The University of Southampton is ranked 13th in the UK²



£50m

The University's contracts with industry are worth about £50m annually



£4.14bn Economic Impact

The University of Southampton generated £4.14bn of economic impact across the UK in 2020/21³



£1.6bn Regional Impact

Approximately £1.6bn of this identifiable regional impact occurs in the south east³



£7.40

Generated for every £1

For every pound spent by the University, £7.40 was generated in economic benefit³



72

spin-out companies

With a turnover of £370m in 2020-2021, the University's 72 spin-out companies boosted the UK economy by £928m, also attracting talent and investment to the region³



16,000 jobs across the UK

The University is a major employer and creates and underpins employment in other organisations, amounting to over 16,000 jobs across the UK³



new students

The economic impact generated by

teaching and learning activities from

new students starting their studies at

the University in 2020/21 was £682m3

23,000 visits to Southampton

The University contributes £69m to Southampton's tourism industry coming from around 23,000 study trips, business meetings and visits to see friends and family³



£553m

international students

The economic contribution generated by first-year international students in 2020/21 amounted to £553m³



£673m

The University's income exceeded £673m in the 2021/22 financial year4

- ı QS World University Rankings, 2023
- 2 The Complete University Guide, 2023
- 3 The economic and social impact of the University of Southampton, London Economics, October 2022
- 4 University of Southampton Financial Report, 2021/22

3 The economic and social impact of the University of Southampton, London Econo

AN ANCHOR INSTITUTION

The University is the foundation of the communities it serves

As an anchor institution, we will work with our partners, staff, students, residents and communities to be part of a strong and united community, ensuring our campuses are hubs of opportunity and creativity.

Empowering students to lead social change

Our students are making a lasting impact on neighbourhoods in the city.

Established five years ago to support students to lead social change, the Social Impact Lab has addressed social challenges around the world. But with its roots in Southampton, the Lab is driving positive change in one corner of the city where it is most needed.

The Social Impact Lab's local project, launched in 2021, is called Home/grown SO14 – and is focused on the neighbourhoods of Northam, Newtown, and St Mary's. The initiative, which was a flagship project in Southampton's City of Culture bid earlier this year, has received five years' worth of funding from the National Institute for Health Research Southampton Biomedical Research Centre.

Read the full story in the latest issue of Re:action magazine.





Protecting communities against viruses

An education programme developed by LifeLab at the University, designed to help primary school children protect themselves from the spread of COVID-19, is now available to young people across the UK.

Children and young people make up a third of the UK population. Their health and wellbeing are top priorities for the UK government, and our scientific evidence shows that a healthy lifestyle at an early age is important for long-term health.

LifeLab is a unique initiative where young people take part in fun and engaging sessions, conduct experiments, meet scientists, and learn first-hand why and how to lead healthier live

The COVID-19 Warrior's programme is an education package that teaches primary school children about the virus, introducing characters who each have superpowers that can limit it: spread. Pupils are encouraged to adopt these superpower skills and become COVID Warriors in their own communities.

Dr Kath Woods-Townsend, LifeLab Programme Lead, says: "The COVID-19 Warrior package gives young people the information they need to make the right choices about keeping safe. We are delighted that the Royal Society for Public Health is now supporting the programme and are pleased more schools across the country have access to it."

Read more about LifeLab in the latest issue of Re:action magazine



The University creates new economic and social opportunities through its partnerships.

We actively collaborate across the city of Southampton and beyond to celebrate diversity, and connect people through culture, education, research, and enterprise.

Enriching the lives of young people

Since 2020, the University of Southampton has been the interim host organisation for the Southampton Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP), a growing consortium of diverse organisations working together, to nurture creative and cultural education and improve the life chances for all children and young people in the city.

SCEP's mission is that all children and young people growing up in Southampton have the opportunity to enjoy and participate in creative, cultural and heritage opportunities to enrich and empower their aspirations, ambitions, and lives.

The consortium aims to: embed creative learning from the early years; promote and support delivery of the arts and culture as part of a broad and balanced curriculum; use the arts to reduce inequalities in educational attainment, health and wellbeing; and provide pre-employment opportunities into the creative and cultural industries.

From 2020—2023, the University will contribute a total of £40k, has secured £140k to realise the Better Lives Through Culture programme, and is developing the network's sustainable operating model.

For more information on SCEP, visit: **southamptoncep.org.uk**



SHARING KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

The University builds mutually productive partnerships.

We will share knowledge, resources, skills and expertise. In return, our regional partners can help enhance our already high-quality education provision for our students.

Advising Southampton City Council

Ten years ago, AbuBakr Bahaj, Professor of Sustainable Energy and Head of the University's Energy and Climate Change Division and the Sustainable Energy Research Group, became the first Chief Scientific Advisor to a local authority in the UK.

Since taking up the role of Chief Scientific Advisor to the Council in 2012, AbuBakr has advised the authority on matters relating to the environment and energy, from housing and green spaces to resourcing and transport. And he has worked with the Council to secure funding to get projects off the ground.

AbuBakr explains: "I attended Council meetings, advising them on anything related to the environment and energy. I advised them on how the city could be improved in terms of housing, green spaces, resources and transport."

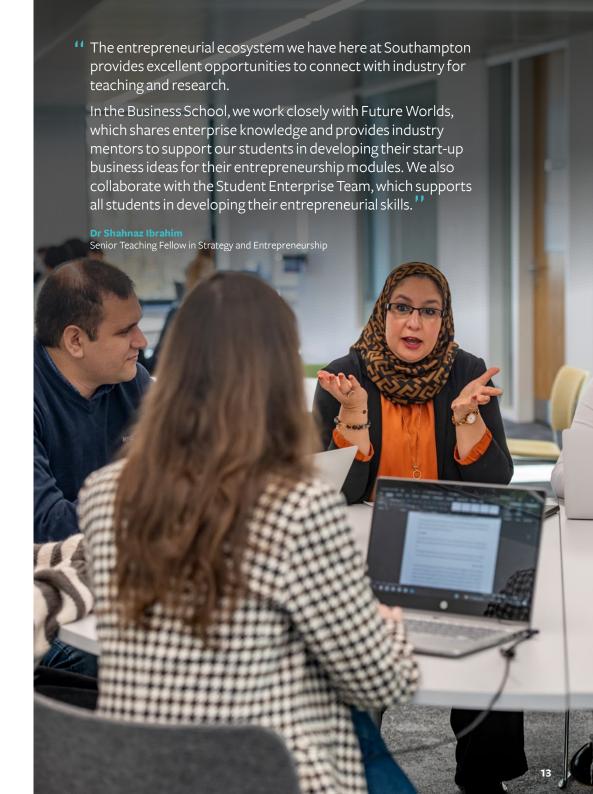
Read the full story in the latest issue of *Reaction* magazine.



Connecting our students with industry

The University enables its staff and students to: gain skills and experience, succeed in their careers, realise their potential to innovate and deliver impact. We value staff involved in knowledge exchange and enterprise activities and ensure we bring the best people and commercial skills necessary into the University.

We will grow our partnerships, from policymakers to industry and third sector organisations to be the partner of choice. We collaborate to innovate, are open to business and to bringing in investors, business partners and supporters into our flourishing inventive and entrepreneurial ecosystem.



INNOVATION TO REAL-WORLD IMPACT

Through research, education and knowledge exchange and enterprise, the University makes a positive impact locally and across the world.

Our people make a positive impact, increasing social mobility, transforming lives, enhancing prosperity and tackling the most challenging issues facing our society such as climate change.

Gold-standard clinical care

The research and innovation at the University is transforming lives. Research is taken from the bench to the clinic to benefit people in the local community, the region and nationally.

The University of Southampton Auditory Implant Service (USAIS) was established in 1990 to help severely to profoundly deaf adults and children. Since the programme began at this centre the surgeons have implanted over 2,000 auditory implant devices.





Making new products with waste carbon dioxide

University of Southampton spin-out company, ViridiCO2, is revolutionising the sustainability of chemical manufacturing processes by making products from carbon dioxide (CO₂).

There is still a desperate need to reduce carbon emissions and increase action to address the climate emergency; this is one of the many global challenges that researchers at Southampton are tackling head on.

"Our new technology can directly replace petrochemicals – these are chemicals derived from fossil fuels used in the chemical manufacturing process – with repurposed CO_2 . By using waste CO_2 in this way, it not only reduces emissions and fossil fuel reliance, but it also serves as a CO_2 utilisation strategy, rather than just a storage solution," explains Dr Daniel Stewart, co-founder of ViridiCO2.

"Our catalyst takes CO₂ that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere and turns it into polymers," says Daniel. "These polymers can be used in furniture, cars, and clothing. This means consumers will be able to buy products which are made from waste CO₂, saving the planet while buying the products they need."

This technology was developed during Daniel's PhD, at the School of Chemistry, with co-founder of ViridiCO2, Professor Robert Raja.

