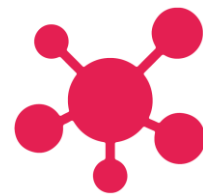


# INNOVATE



Innovation Hub Newsletter

EDITION 13: AUGUST 2025

## Welcome to the August 2025 edition of the Innovation Hub newsletter.

It would be remiss of me not to recognise the recent publication of the government's ambitious 10-year Health Plan which includes wide ranging reforms as well as re-shaping the Innovation Strategy which will of course be key to our readers. Our review highlights that technologies are seen as key and that wider issues affecting adoption of innovation are identified, but we await the plan outlining deliverables. Dr Malte Gerhold, Health Foundation in his recent blog highlights the need to go beyond tech implementation to true tech-enabled care models, and the need for the NHS to 'catch-up' before it can focus on the integration of new technologies into systems (page 2).

The Dorset Innovation Hub (DIH) strategic partnership is made up of Dorset's NHS organisations, public services, local authorities, academia, local business growth hub, and voluntary & community partners working together to use new innovations to support patients and our service users within Dorset. In this edition, we highlight recent 'developing the impact' activity from partners, including Dorset Police, Health Sciences University, BCP Council and Arts University Bournemouth (page 6).

As always, the INNOVATE newsletter provides great examples of innovative activity in Dorset including: CoP Event Prioritising the Priorities (page 3), Heartflow: Futuristic 3D Heart Scans Speed Up Diagnosis & Save Millions (page 5), Working in Partnership with People and Communities Annual Report (page 5), Case Study: Smart Spray – New Innovative Technology Adopted by Dorset Police (page 8), DIH Priority Project: BCP Training to Support Managing Change (page 8), and Quality Improvement Week – 08 to 12 Sept 2025 (page 8).

Finally, reflecting on the significant changes, locally and nationally, it is reassuring to see the positive response from staff across the golden thread of quality inc. innovation who remain as always focused on improving the outcomes, safety and experience of patients and service users.

**Sarah Chessell**

**Head of Research and Innovation, NHS Dorset  
Lead - Dorset Innovation Hub, Dorset ICS**

✉ [Sarah.Chessell@nhsdorset.nhs.uk](mailto:Sarah.Chessell@nhsdorset.nhs.uk)

**“None of us  
is as smart as  
all of us.”**

*Ken Blanchard*



## In This Issue

- NHS 10 Year Health Plan
- AIS Initiative – Dorset Case Study Presentation
- 'Developing the Impact' Updates
- Case Study ~ Dorset Police Smart Spray
- QI Week Sept 2025
- Heartflow: NHS England Impact Report
- Spotlight: Dorset VCSA
- 'Prioritising the Priorities' event
- Blog ~ Reflections on Dorset Police as a DIH Partner

# Innovation and the NHS 10 Year Health Plan for England

July 2025 saw the publication of the awaited [NHS 10 Year Health Plan](#) which sets out the government's vision to rebuild and future-proof the NHS. Core to this are the three key shifts of hospital to community, analogue to digital, and sickness to prevention. Delivery of this ambitious plan sees focus on initiatives such as a new NHS operating model, workforce reforms, increased transparency and patient involvement, financial reforms, as well as a reshaping of the innovation strategy.

Indeed, looking through this 171-page document, the word 'innovation' appears 122 times, so what opportunities and key takeaways does the 10 Year Health Plan present for innovation and innovation adoption? It is strongly seen that 'technologies' are integral to the new model of care with '5 big bets' highlighted for their potential to accelerate healthcare reform and secure financial sustainability of the NHS:

1. AI to drive productivity supporting patient choice and liberating staff
2. Wearables to make care 'real time' – enabling continuous monitoring and pre-emptive actions
3. Robotics to support precision, transforming patient care from surgery to rehabilitation
4. Genomic and predictive analysis for pre-emptive, personalised care
5. Data to deliver impact

In a recent [Health Foundation blog, Dr Malte Gerhold](#) explores this heavy focus on technology to help tackle pressures and improve care. Within the blog, Malte highlights the need to go beyond tech implementation to true tech-enabled care models, and the need for the NHS to 'catch-up' before it can focus on the integration of new technologies into systems.

Beyond technologies, it is also encouraging to see the plan attempt to address some of the wider issues and needs that can be seen as barriers to innovation adoption:

- Strengthening the innovation ecosystem e.g. establishing Regional Health Innovation Zones
- Simplifying procurement and adoption pathways e.g. introduction of schemes such as "innovator passport" to facilitate national roll out of proven innovations
- Building workforce capacity and capabilities e.g. using technology to increase clinical capacity

However, the 10 Year Health Plan has faced criticisms and challenges from policy analysts and healthcare experts including; an overreliance on technology and AI, insufficient financial commitment, under-addressed core NHS problems, and unrealistic targets. Despite this, innovation remains essential to driving transformative improvements in healthcare and delivering sustainable high-quality care for all. A copy of the NHS 10-Year Health Plan is available [here](#).



## Wellcome Trust Report: From Research to Reality

[The Wellcome Trust report 'From research to reality'](#) provides an interesting commentary to sit alongside the NHS 10-Year Health Plan, where a fourth shift – from research to reality – is discussed as necessary to enable achievement of the government's ambitions for NHS transformation. This report outlines a vision for a research and innovation-powered NHS, arguing that the transformative power of research is undeniable, and the only way to build an NHS 'fit for the future' is by putting research at the heart of health. Central to this being a culture of everyday innovation, testing, learning and improvement across the health system. A copy of this report is available [here](#).



Social media snips



Community of Practice Event: Prioritising the Priorities

On 02 July 2025, we ran a community of practice event focused on the topic of prioritising the priorities.

This prioritisation is a need and a task we are more frequently facing in the current climate of demand outstripping capacity and competing priorities. Key is the ability to be able to make robust decisions about which work /projects should be prioritised to take forwards.

In the session we highlighted and discussed some of the key aspects to consider including:

- the information needed to make informed decisions
- the influence and impact of context and others
- evidencing the impact of decisions made
- signposting to resources and tools to support decision making

Great discussion and points explored within the session, with key takeaway messages including:

- moving from an individual's priority to an organisation's priority delivery plan
- think pathways - work with key stakeholders, don't work in isolation
- balanced programme of priorities and evolve with the changing needs in your organisation and system
- being mindful of your colleagues and team, consider the human factors and wellbeing of working with multiple priority projects and evolving priorities
- focus on the need and benefits realisation for the defined population.

A huge thank you to all who attended and for enriching the session with your different perspectives and the depth of chat generated. A recording of the session can be viewed on the [Dorset Innovation Hub YouTube channel](#).

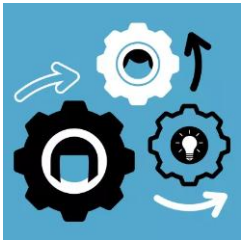
### Brief overview

- **Multiple Signalling** - what are the priorities for your team, your organisation, locally and nationally?
- **Prioritising** - limited capacity, need to focus on priorities and doing less initiatives and doing them well
- **Generic lens** - staff providing facilitative support or undertaking projects or individuals seeking support
- **Project** – improvement, clinical audit, QI, research, transformation or innovation
- **Framing** – How to make informed decisions regarding priorities and enable informed conversations



# Accelerating Innovation System Initiative – Dorset Case Study Presentation July 2025

As originally reported in the [February 2025 edition](#) of the Innovate newsletter, NHS Dorset is one of seven ICBs participating in [The Health Foundation's Accelerating Innovation System \(AIS\)](#) initiative. This 12-month discovery initiative is focused on increasing the health and care systems' understanding of the different roles ICBs, with their partner Health Innovation Networks (HINs), play in supporting the adoption and spread of health and care innovations.





### Innovation in Dorset - Dorset Innovation Hub – strategic partnership and system case study

Accelerating Innovation Systems – Peer Learning Session 3  
15<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Sarah Chessell, Head of Research and Innovation, NHS Dorset  
Lash Galloway, Associate Director – Innovation Adoption (Dorset Locality), Health Innovation Wessex

As part of this initiative, peer learning sessions are held every 2 to 3 months, which provide an opportunity for participants from all seven ICBs and partner HINs to come together to discuss topics such as national developments, ICBs role in promoting innovation adoption, use of strategic commissioning to drive innovation adoption as well as hear case study presentations from participating ICBs and HINs.

### Dorset Women's Health Programme 2024/25

The Women's Health Strategy for England (July 2022) sets out 10-year ambitions for boosting the health and wellbeing of women and girls, and for improving how the health and care system works for women. NHS Dorset and Health Innovation Wessex led and supported a system-led approach, along with other partners, to deliver six projects in Dorset.

#### Stakeholders:

- NHS Dorset
- Health Innovation Wessex
- Dorset Women's Community Interest Company (CIC)
- Bournemouth University
- Dorset County Hospital
- University Hospitals Dorset
- Dorset HealthCare NHS Trust
- Wessex Health Partners
- Health Sciences University

#### Our Impact Highlights:

- Conducted a digital survey and produced a report which analysed just under 1000 responses.
- Enabled 21 groups to be connected to the Women's Health Hub with **from 20 organisations** to enable the public voice.
- Completed an **innovation scan** looking for innovations **ready for adoption** in the areas of menopause, young women's physical and mental health, long-term reversible contraceptive and pelvic floor health.
- Implemented **the new applications** to support the women of Dorset, **Supporter App** and **four apps for menopause** have been added to the Dorset App library.
- Supported the **creation of an online resource website**, which went live in April 2023. It will support the women of Dorset with education, treatment and signposting for more support.
- Supported the delivery of **two new pathways** of care enabling better access to services, more female spaces and access closer to home.



I remain hugely grateful for everything our team achieved, and on and on supported with, under the Dorset Women's Health Programme. They are an incredible organisation and working in partnership with them has greatly increased the success of this programme and benefited thousands of women and women across the Dorset system.

**Helen Cook, Programme Manager for Dorset Women's Health Hub - NHS Dorset**

In the July 2025 peer learning session, it was the turn of NHS Dorset and Health Innovation Wessex (HIW) to present. Within the presentation, details of the Dorset Innovation Hub strategic partnership approach to innovation adoption was shared, together with an HIW example of collaborative system work through the Dorset Women's Health Programme 2024/25.

## Innovate UK Business Connect – Healthy Lives Insights Hour

Innovate UK Business Connect run regular, informal, online 'Healthy Lives Insights Hour' events where innovators share knowledge and insights on the design, development and adoption of products and services for older people. The sessions start with a short presentation, with most of the time spent discussing the topic and sharing knowledge.

Previous topics have included EU's Horizon Europe research and innovation funding programme (June 2025) and Data and AI for Health (July 2025).

For more information on these, and other Innovate UK Business Connect events, please visit [Events - Innovate UK Business Connect](#).



## Blog ~ Reflections on Dorset Police as a DIH Partner

A new blog has been added to the [Dorset Innovation Hub website](#) from Kimberley Ward – Detective Sergeant (Evidence Based Policing & Innovation Hub) at Dorset Police.

Within the blog, Kimberley discusses how policing has always relied on innovation, with many examples of successes where innovative ideas have completely changed the way policing works, protect the public and bring offenders to justice.

At the core of the DIH is our strategic system partnership, with Dorset Police's inclusion enabling the DIH to expand its expertise, broadened its vision, and support cross organisational working. To read the blog in full please visit the [Dorset Innovation Hub website](#).



# Heartflow: Futuristic 3D Heart Scans Speed Up Diagnosis and Save Millions



NHS England have published an article summarising some recent study findings on the impact from use of AI-drive 3D heart scans (Heartflow).

Heartflow reduces the need for an invasive angiography by turning a CT scan of the patient's heart into a personalised 3D image. The technology assesses the extent and location of blockages and enables doctors to diagnose and treat patients with suspected heart disease much faster whilst freeing up capacity in the NHS.

A new study of the technology's use, published in Nature Medicine, found that it reduced the number of patients needing invasive angiogram tests by a sixth (16%) in cases where it was later found no further treatment was required – and by 7% overall.

The number of second heart tests patients needed within a two-year period has also been cut by 12%.

New NHS data also shows that over 24,300 patients so far have benefitted since the technology was rolled out on the NHS in 2021, enabling hundreds of patients to avoid invasive procedures and saving the NHS an estimated £9.5m – equivalent to around £390 per patient.

Heartflow is one of the medical technologies that feature as part of [NHS England's Med Tech Funding Mandate](#) (MTFM) with the MTFM policy supporting implementation of Heartflow at University Hospitals Dorset. The DIH provide local implementation support of MTFM products.

The full article is available via [NHS England's website](#).

## NHS Dorset: Working in Partnership with People and Communities Annual Report

NHS Dorset's annual report, Working in Partnership with People and Communities, highlights the work being done across Dorset to involve people meaningfully in shaping services and improving health outcomes. Highlights include the launch of NHS Dorset's 'Listening Better in Dorset' webpage and collaborative campaigns like the 'Every Drop Counts' hydration campaign.



We were delighted to have the opportunity to contribute to this annual report and highlight some of the ways in which Dorset is trying to ensure that the voice and experiences of local communities and service users are included within research and innovation activities. Examples include:

- Service user led workshop within the Innovation Hub Summit
- Creation of a 'Your Story' piece as a training and experience resource
- Dorset's 'I Am More Than ...' project enabling those with experience of homelessness and being vulnerably housed to have a voice in research and service design.



This annual report is available on the [NHS Dorset website](#).



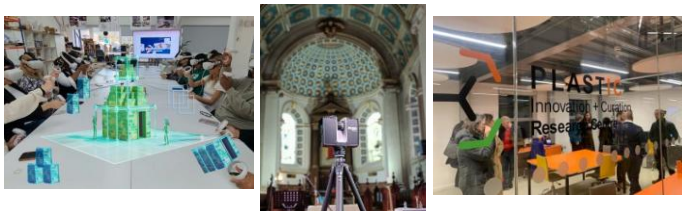
# Developing the Impact Updates: Innovative Work Headlines from Dorset Innovation Hub Partner Organisations

‘Developing the Impact’ is a rolling DIH programme, implemented in 2022, which has rapidly become central to the DIH approach of embedding innovation within Dorset. The essence of ‘Developing the Impact’ is partner organisation activity which supports developing an innovation culture, capabilities, and raising awareness of innovation activities in partner organisations. Together we are ‘Developing the Impact’ and building networks across the Dorset system that meets the needs of individual organisations and improves the lives of people in Dorset.

DIH core partner organisations provide ‘Developing the Impact’ updates at the DIH programme group and DIH core team meetings that highlight the innovation activities in their organisation and collaborative working. In the past couple of months updates have been provided by Arts University Bournemouth (AUB), BCP Council, Dorset Police, and Health Sciences University, and we wanted to share some ‘headlines’ from these ‘Developing the Impact’ updates with you.

## Arts University Bournemouth

- Launch of a professional 3D Scanning Service
- Events around AI and Digital Representation
- Launch of Plastic Research Centre
- Development of MA Innovation & Creative Entrepreneurship course



## BCP Council

- Fulfilled Lives Transformation Programme enabling sustainable transformation in adult social care provision e.g. 3 conversations approach
- Digital inclusion and linking health and digital skills



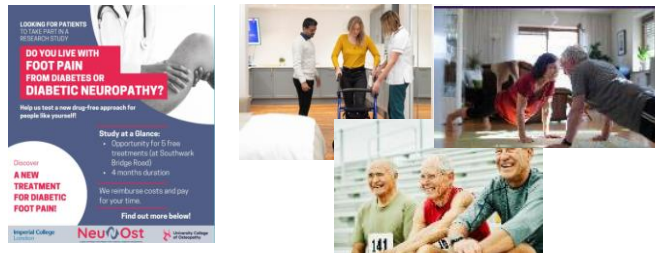
## Dorset Police

- Innovation Power Hours & Bright Idea’s submission process
- Innovation Ambassadors Network – group of creative thinks championing a culture of innovation
- Innovating, transforming and improving as a recognised priority area



## Health Sciences University

- NeuOst clinical trial – a drug-free approach for people living with painful diabetic neuropathy
- Training programme supporting physical activity in rest and care homes
- Innovation vouchers scheme
- Development of new AHP apprenticeships



For more information on the DIH ‘Developing the Impact’ programme, please email [dorsetinnovationhub@nhsdorset.nhs.uk](mailto:dorsetinnovationhub@nhsdorset.nhs.uk). Please see the DIH website for information on DIH [core team](#) and [programme group](#) membership.





# Spotlight on Dorset VCSA: Championing Community Voice Across the Sector

The Dorset Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly (VCSA) serves as the vital link between statutory bodies and the voluntary and community sector (VCS) across Dorset. Our work is guided by four key pillars [Communication, Representation, Engagement, and Collaboration](#) - which together form the



foundation for meaningful partnerships, inclusive dialogue, and sector-wide impact. These pillars ensure that the voices of local organisations are heard, valued, and reflected in decision-making at every level.

To bring these principles to life, we've just launched [Adam's VCSA Blog](#) - the first four-part series will explore how each pillar connects to the real-world work of the Assembly. From amplifying community voices to fostering cross-sector collaboration, the blog offers an inside look at how the Dorset VCSA is shaping a more connected and resilient voluntary sector. Whether you are part of a grassroots initiative or a strategic partner, this series is your invitation to engage, reflect, and be inspired.

Latest initiatives from the VCSA include: the launch of our [Virtual Exchange Series](#) a dynamic space for dialogue, peer learning, and sector-wide connection. The first series started in June and runs through to August, with a second kicking off in September through to November. Early sessions have sparked rich conversations, uncovered shared challenges, and surfaced promising ideas across service areas. You can watch June and July's Virtual Exchanges via our [YouTube channel](#).

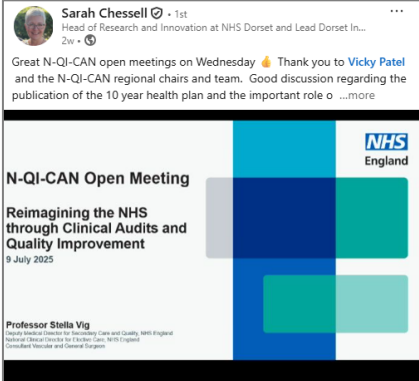
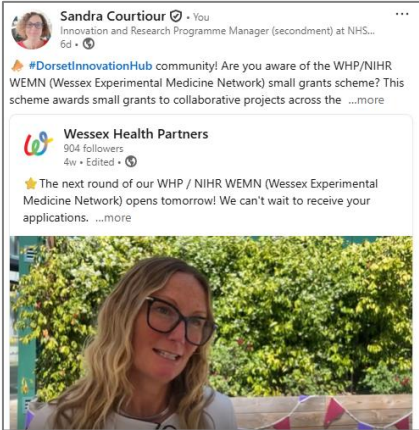
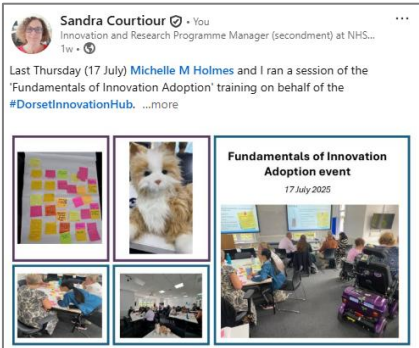
Finally, we are excited to announce the formation of the Our Dorset FutureCare VCS Reference Group, which will strengthen community input into Dorset's evolving health and care transformation work. This group is set to play a pivotal role in shaping how the VCS engages with system leaders and contributes to future service design.

As the Dorset VCSA continues to grow and evolve, we invite you to stay connected by exploring the latest updates and opportunities on our website: [www.dorsetvcsa.co.uk/news](http://www.dorsetvcsa.co.uk/news).

You can also keep up with VCSA news and developments through regular updates shared by our [Infrastructure Charities and Community Anchor Organisation partners](#) via newsletters and e-bulletin.

**Adam Martel**  
**Business & Communications Officer – Dorset VCSA**

## Social media snips



# Case Study: Smart Spray – New Innovative Technology Adopted by Dorset Police

Smart Spray is a method of forensic tagging of offenders using off road bikes (mopeds, motorcycles, e-scooters etc) which are used anti-socially or are stolen.

Dorset Police have recently adopted this new technology with the aims of:

- Reducing antisocial behaviour in the community
- Increasing the identification of the number of persons involved in these activities
- Recover stolen bikes and reunite them with their lawful owners
- Maximise detection of crime by identifying offenders and seizure of bikes
- Minimise risk of harm to public, offenders, and officers
- Maximise safety to public, offenders, and officers
- Minimise offending by detecting crimes and preventing further offending

Further information on the adoption of Smart Spray by Dorset Police is available via [Dorset Police Instagram](#) feed.



## Quality Improvement Week – 08 to 12 September 2025

Quality Improvement (QI) week is an annual celebration of the power of QI and the brilliant work happening across NHS providers. With the strapline ‘QI is for Everyone!’ – this year’s event will focus on involving patients in improvement and improvement outcomes. If you work at Dorset County Hospital (DCH) or Dorset HealthCare (DHC), look out for poster competitions, workshops, and new QI podcasts within your organisations. If you are not at DCH or DHC you can still get involved with a programme of online events covering topics ranging from co-production in quality, building QI capability, to innovation impact and collaboration. For more information on these online events, please visit [QI Week 2025](#).



## DIH Priority Project: BCP Training to Support Managing Change

As part of the Nov 24 DIH Development Day, each DIH partner organisation presented a priority project for DIH support consideration. For BCP Council there was recognition of the current wide transformation programme and the number of live projects involving change. Through discussions on how DIH could best support BCP Council, it was agreed for DIH to develop and run a ‘Making Meaningful Change’ workshop/training session for staff. This session was led by NHS Dorset and Health Sciences University, in partnership with BCP Council, and delivered on 22 July 2025. Topics covered included change in the BCP context, understanding the human reactions to change, and role of evaluation in change.

Positive feedback was received from the attendees including:  
*“I valued learning about new ways of shaping the information I deliver.”*  
*“Given me inspiration for helping teams embed knowledge”.*

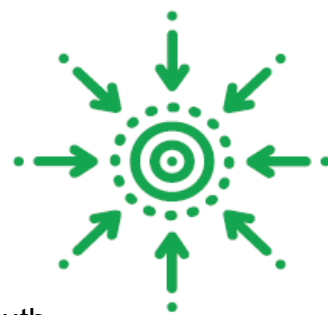


# Innovation Hub Education Programme

## Fundamentals of Innovation Adoption

2025 and 2026 Fundamentals training dates are available for booking:

- Thursday 23 October 2025 at County Hall, Dorchester
- Wednesday 22 April 2026 at Health Sciences University, Bournemouth
- Thursday 16 July 2026 at County Hall, Dorchester
- Wednesday 21 October 2026 at Health Sciences University, Bournemouth



Each event runs from 10:00 to 16:30 and further information on this free training is available via the [DIH website](#). Places can be booked by completing a copy of our [booking form](#).

## Community of Practice events

Our next Community of Practice event is centred on the theme 'Beyond Numbers'.

This 1hr online event is on 08 October 2025 at 13:00 and will focus on how qualitative methods can be best used to show impact. The event is free and open to all to attend.

Further information and booking details available via the [DIH website](#).

Recordings of previous Community of Practice events are available via [DIH YouTube channel](#).

**Dorset Innovation Hub Community of Practice**

***Beyond numbers: showing impact through qualitative evaluation***

**HSDU** HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY **NHS Dorset**

**How can you use qualitative methods to show impact?**

Join this community of practice event to find out more about:

- Qualitative data collection methods
- Basics of qualitative data analysis
- Ethics and governance of qualitative evaluation

With opportunities for discussions and questions, case studies, and links for tools and resources.

**Wednesday 08 October 2025**  
**13:00 to 14:00**  
**Online event**  
<https://forms.office.com/e/z7gN1EBqgg>

Follow the link/scan the QR code to register for the event via the Dorset Innovation Hub. Should you wish to opt out of further communications following the event, you can do so by emailing [dorsetinnovationhub@nhsdorset.nhs.uk](mailto:dorsetinnovationhub@nhsdorset.nhs.uk)

## Innovation for Improvement in Health and Social Care (Level 7)

The 'Innovation for Improvement in Health and Social Care' course is designed for people working in health and social care settings in a role which supports innovation and improvement. This level 7 course will be delivered by NHS Dorset and Health Sciences University. Further information on this course will be available soon.

## Other Training Opportunities

**Qi Lite and QSIR:** Quality Improvement training is available to all staff across the Dorset ICS and is offered in a tiered approach. [See website for further details.](#)

**PM Lite:** Introductory course to project management which is aimed at individuals who are new to project management or those looking to refresh their knowledge. [See website for further details.](#)

The Innovation Hub team provides advice and hands-on support to adapt, adopt and sustain proven innovation and develop ideas into new services & products that will benefit the Dorset ICS.

If you would have a project that you would like to discuss, or if there is anything in this newsletter that you would like further information on, please do contact us.



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[ourdorset.org.uk/innovation](http://ourdorset.org.uk/innovation)