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## Notice

# AI for Science Strategy: UK universities' joint statement

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DSIT's [AI for Science Strategy](#) sets strategic direction for the UK's scientific community during a time where the future of science is being re-shaped by artificial intelligence (AI). The integration of AI into science will drive innovation that improves people's lives. We are already witnessing AI-enabled methods for developing new treatments for neurodegenerative illness, discovering new materials for producing and storing sustainable energy, and controlling the dynamic physical processes unfolding inside of fusion reactors or quantum computers.

The adoption of AI into science is a profound opportunity, but at the same time these developments have the potential to reshuffle global scientific standings. Despite external pressures, our scientific ecosystem is undeniably one of the UK's greatest strengths, and concerted action in the coming years could be decisive in positioning the UK as a beneficiary of the change to come. By its nature the scientific method is always evolving, and UK universities are ready to adapt – as we have always done – to emerging paradigms.

We welcome the scale of ambition in the strategy, as well as its emphasis on the pivotal role universities will play in ensuring the UK reaps the rewards of AI for science. We are already moving to support government ambitions in this space by delivering specialist training, offering AI conversion courses, hosting AI for science fellowships, and expanding support for research technical professionals.

Moving forward, universities will retain a key role in a number of areas, including the:

- provision of training in AI methods
- creation of a research culture that incentivises and facilitates interdisciplinary research
- development of rewarding careers for technical staff
- building strategic relationships with industry
- promoting data standards.

In each of these domains, collective success will depend on a whole-ecosystem approach.

We look forward to working with DSIT and other partners to seize this opportunity and are eager to work with government as delivery begins.

## Signatories

### **Professor Guy Poppy**

Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation, University of Bristol

### **Professor Sir Bashir Al-Hashimi**

FRS FREng, Vice President (Research and Innovation), King's College London

### **Professor Geraint Rees**

Vice-Provost (Research, Innovation and Global Engagement), University College London

### **Professor Anthony Hollander**

Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Impact, University of Liverpool

### **Professor Sir John Aston**

Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research, University of Cambridge

## Professor Roger Whitaker

Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research, Innovation and Enterprise, Cardiff University

## Professor Irene Tracey

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Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Research, Queen's University Belfast

This statement is open for signature. If you would like your institution to be named as a signatory, please contact Universities UK: [info@universitiesuk.ac.uk](mailto:info@universitiesuk.ac.uk).

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