

Science Vale UK - a global hot spot for enterprise and innovation in science, high technology and the application of knowledge

THE SCIENCE VALE UK AREA

The Science Vale UK area brings together key employment and housing sites in southern Oxfordshire, which collectively form an exceptional linked cluster of science and technology opportunities for long term sustainable growth. The name Science Vale UK has been adopted to provide a distinctive identity to help describe and promote the area and galvanise collaborative action.

The area contains an exceptional concentration of world class science innovation and enterprise, with 4% of England's Research & Development employment and 13% of the South East region's. It has one of the fastest growing populations in the region. The existing population of approximately 57,000 is forecast to grow by about 21% between 2006 and 2016 amounting to 37% of Oxfordshire's overall forecast population growth for the period.

This growth brings with it an opportunity to develop and improve infrastructure, particularly transport links, and to develop appropriate housing and amenities that will support innovation and enterprise and attract new high value business.

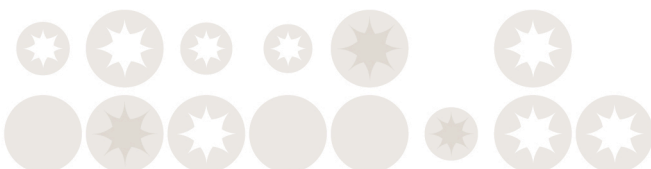
The area includes the following key employment areas of employment and housing growth.

Harwell Oxford

The science and innovation campus is one of Government's two designated centres of science and knowledge transfer and home to the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, including the Diamond Light Source, the UK's biggest science investment for 30 years. It covers 260 hectares and employs over 4,500 people. The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and the Science and Technology Facilities Council have entered into a joint venture arrangement with Goodman to develop property on part of the campus for science, innovation and business.

Milton Park

Milton Park is one of the largest business and science parks in Europe. It covers 100 hectares, has over 300,000 square metres of floor space and is the location for a cluster of



knowledge based businesses employing more than 6,500 people. It is owned and managed by MEPC which has a philosophy based on close collaboration with existing occupiers and the provision of sustainable new floor space to meet the needs of the region.

Culham Science Centre

Culham Science Centre, which covers some 80 hectares, is one of the UK's most prestigious research centres, As well as many smaller enterprises it is the home of the UK's fusion research programme and the world's largest fusion experimental facility, JET (Joint European Torus). It is owned and managed by United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

Didcot

Didcot is one of the Government's designated New Growth Points. There are proposals for 8,800 new homes with a forecast 72% increase in population by 2026. Significant employment floor space exists in the town which also enjoys a major rail hub with rapid access to London and the West.

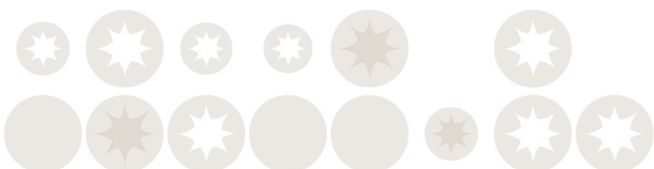
Wantage/Grove

With proposals for 2,500 new homes the population of Grove is forecast to increase by 47%. A range of employment offers already exist in the area, including Williams F1, one of the World's leading Formula One teams.

THE SCIENCE VALE UK PARTNERSHIP

The Science Vale UK Partnership promotes the strengths and advantages of the area. The partners are all major public and private sector bodies with leading roles in the Area who wish to work together and to commit resources to the Partnership:

Harwell Science and Innovation Campus Limited Partnership (HSIC LP)
MEPC
Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)
Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC)
United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
Vale of White Horse District Council (VWHDC)



VISION

Whilst the Science Vale UK Area already has very significant strengths in science, technology and innovation, the Partners wish to develop its potential to make an even greater contribution to the South East's and the United Kingdom's competitiveness in the face of robust international competition.

The vision is that Science Vale UK should be a global hot spot for enterprise and innovation in science, high technology and the application of knowledge.

The partners are confident that this vision is realisable. The deliverable outcomes are that Science Vale UK will:

- be world renowned for business excellence, based on science and innovation – attracting high quality inward investment, and helping resident businesses to prosper and grow;
- have an innovative and high quality educational and skills offer in science, engineering, technology and advanced manufacturing so as to meet the needs of local employers and help local people fulfil their personal potential;
- have a first class environment, housing and physical infrastructure, especially transport but also ICT and utilities, attracting the extra investment required to achieve this;
- be an attractive and sustainable place in which to live and work, which does not rely on long distance commuting and has a strong sense of community and local pride.

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