

Help R&D to thrive in Leeds North East

70% of the UK public
would support their MP
campaigning for more
Research & Development
jobs in their area

Start a conversation
about what R&D means
for your constituency
and the wider UK



Congratulations on your success in the General Election. Over the last few months, I'm sure you have been thinking about the political platform from which to represent your constituents and the nation.

This booklet sets out why Research and Development (R&D) should be a part of that plan.

How can the Campaign for Science and Engineering help you?

CaSE provides impartial expert advice to decision-makers about the role R&D can play in solving the problems facing people in your constituency, across the UK, and around the world.

Investing in R&D creates new jobs and future industries, new educational opportunities, and the economic growth that will pay for our public services.

As an independent charity, with a membership spanning the breadth of the R&D sector, CaSE advocates for the policy outcomes that can help R&D improve the lives and livelihoods of people across the UK.

I invite you to explore the ideas and evidence within this booklet and meet with me to discuss how you can become an R&D champion for your constituents and the nation.



Alicia Greated
Executive Director
Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE)



Introducing CaSE and R&D

Research and Development (R&D) is the gathering of knowledge to understand the world around us, to solve problems, and to create new products and services.

Established almost 40 years ago, the Campaign for Science and Engineering (CaSE) is the UK's leading independent advocate for R&D.

We advocate for policy decisions that can help R&D thrive and deliver benefits to the lives and livelihoods of people across the UK.

As a membership-based charity, we represent over 110 scientific organisations including businesses, universities, professional bodies and research charities, as well as individual scientists and engineers.

We work closely with our members to produce evidence-led reports, briefings and statistics.

We also explore the public's perceptions of R&D and have conducted a series of nationally-representative polls, totalling more than 25,000 people across the UK. This data allows us to explore public opinions in your constituency and we've included some of those figures in this booklet.

Where R&D happens

NHS



Universities



Industry



Schools



Charities



The public think that...

CaSE has polled over 25,000 people in nationally-representative surveys, to understand public opinions towards R&D

CaSE Public Attitudes to R&D 2022-23



1

R&D investment is important

70% of respondents to our opinion polling think it's important for the Government to invest in R&D.

2

R&D should be a priority for politicians of all parties

Regardless of which way they vote, most people want to see politicians pay more attention to science and innovation and prioritise funding research.

3

R&D can bring regional benefits

More than half of our respondents say they want their regions to host more R&D, citing local jobs and inward investment.

4

R&D is an asset to communities

More than two-thirds would support an R&D lab being built in their local area or high street, saying it would bring well-paid jobs and benefits to the local economy.

5

R&D is relevant to public concerns

People in the UK feel R&D is essential to tackling climate change, the quality of the NHS and the cost of living.

What do your constituents think about R&D?

68%



Would support their MP engaging with the leaders of local R&D organisations such as Universities and businesses.

72%



Would support their MP creating a new scheme for local school children to visit research centres.

65%



Would like more R&D investment and facilities in their local area.

65%



Would support their MP speaking in Parliament about the importance of R&D.

74%



Would support their MP campaigning for their nearest NHS hospital to host more clinical trials.



How R&D is improving lives and livelihoods in Yorkshire and the Humber



NHS Blood and Transplant's (NHSBT) Clinical Biotechnology and Sheffield University's Gene Therapy Innovation and Manufacturing Centres

 **Location:** Sheffield

 **Type of R&D:** Gene therapy manufacturing

 **Number of Employees:** : 1-50

The NHSBT and Sheffield hubs manufacture adeno-associated virus (AAV) vectors (used in many gene therapies) and collaborate with the Cell and Gene Therapy (CGT) Catapult. CGT Catapult leveraged its established and scalable AAV manufacturing process and a suite of analytical methods to NHSBT's Clinical Biotechnology Centre and Sheffield University's Gene Therapy Innovation and Manufacturing Centre, creating new AAV manufacturing capability in the UK for academia and industry to access. The intention is to continually improve the manufacturing process, as understanding of this process increases.



Classics, School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, University of Leeds and Northern Monk Brewery

 **Location:** Leeds

 **Type of R&D:** Product development – food and drink industry

 **Number of Employees:** 1-50

Dr Samuel Gartland worked with Northern Monk Brewery through 2023-2024, developing a new beer called Mhor, based on the best archaeological information available from ancient northern Britain about brewing practices and recipes. More than 10,000 pints were sold and the launch was covered widely across different media, including the BBC and national newspapers.

Independent policy analysis from CaSE

At CaSE, we work with our members and the wider R&D community to produce evidence-led, practical policy reports on key topics affecting the sector. Some recent highlights are outlined below.



Universities are a crucial component of the R&D system but are facing substantial financial shortfalls in both public and charitable R&D funding.



This briefing highlights themes and case studies on the value that university R&D brings to the UK.

Boosting business R&D investment is vital if the UK is to increase research intensity and the prosperity this can generate.



This report highlights the barriers that UK businesses face when investing in R&D, with recommendations for the UK Government that will help make the UK an attractive environment for R&D-led businesses.



This report sets out the challenges for education and skills provision across the UK, with recommendations that could support high-quality education and skills provision to build a more innovative economy.



Become a champion for R&D

In your constituency

Engage with research organisations in your area to see R&D in action – we can put you in touch with local R&D businesses, research centres or universities.

Speak to local residents and start a conversation about what R&D means for your area

In Parliament

Urge the Government to take four actions that can support the growth of the R&D sector:

1. Work with the sector to develop plans for 10-year funding
2. Mitigate the impact of financial pressures on universities
3. Attract international talent by taking action to tackle high visa costs
4. Collaborate with business to drive investment in R&D.

Get in touch for more information

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