

Building a Life Science Cluster

In the Scottish Highlands

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Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

Ambitious for growth

A Historical Perspective

1990

- No research active health boards (NHS)
- No universities
- No life science activity



Assets

- One notable scientific institution (Scottish Association for Marine Science)
- Excellent quality of life (for some)



HIE Interventions

- Active support for small life science companies.
- Investment in infrastructure
- Investment in a new university



HIE Interventions

- Active support for small life science companies.
 - Inverness Medical established in 1990s.
 - Acquired by Johnson & Johnson
 - LifeScan is now the biggest life science company in Scotland
 - Many ex-employees have set up their own companies



HIE Interventions

- Investment in Infrastructure



The Modern face of the Highlands



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Building a community

- Strategic themes
 - to provide focus
 - to provide common ground



Strategic Themes

Criteria

Cross cutting

Provide commonality

Growth potential

Relevant

**Cross cutting
(cross sectoral)**

**Are of common
interest

(to a wide range of
life/health science
organisations)**

**Possess novelty
and potential for
growth**

**Are of local
relevance and
global significance**



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Strategic themes

- Bioactive Natural Products
- Well being & Preventative medicine (P4 healthcare)
- Telehealthcare



Strategic themes

- Themed events provide justification for diary space – networking opportunities.
- Commonality supports relationship building and bridges cultural divides.
- Adversity and opportunity builds communities



Watch this space



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