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CIVIC UNIVERSITY
AGREEMENT

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CIVIC UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT: 2022-2027

1 Introduction

This Civic Agreement between the University and local partners comes at a significant time as we celebrate our 70th year gaining university status by royal charter, proudly becoming the University of Southampton.

Originally founded in 1862 by Henry Robinson Hartley, heir to the family of Southampton Wine Merchants, a studious and reclusive character, Hartley had turned his back on the family business and when he died, he left his estate to the Corporation of Southampton to promote the study and advancement of science and learning.

The result was the formation of The Hartley Institution, which was opened in the High Street below the Bargate in 1862 by Lord Palmerston. Within three years, the Hartley Institution had a membership of almost 700 – many of these being part-time evening students.



Students in 1904

By the 20th century we were already gaining an impressive reputation despite our small size becoming a University College in 1902. By the 1930s we were winning national grants for our work in Chemistry and Engineering.

1.1 From College to University and the war efforts

In 1902, the Hartley College became the Hartley University college, a degree awarding branch of the University of London. This was after inspection of the teaching and finances by the University College Grants Committee and donations from Council members (including William Darwin the then Treasurer). An increase in student numbers in the following years motivated fund-raising efforts to move the college to greenfield land around Back Lane (now University Road) in the Highfield area of Southampton.

On 20 June 1914, Viscount Haldane opened the new site of the renamed Southampton University College. However, the outbreak of the First World War six weeks later meant no lectures could take place there, as the buildings were handed over by the college authorities for use as a military hospital. To cope with the volume of casualties, wooden huts were erected at the rear of the building. These were donated to the university by the War Office after the end of fighting, in time for the transfer from the high street premises in 1920. At this time, Highfield Hall, a former country house and overlooking Southampton Common, for which a lease had earlier been secured, commenced use as a halls of residence for female students. South Hill, on what is now the Glen Eyre Halls Complex was also acquired, along with South Stoneham House to house male students.

Between the 1920s and 1930s further expansion was made possible through private donors, such as the two daughters of Edward Turner Sims for the construction of the university library, and from the people of Southampton, enabling new buildings on both sides of University Road.

During World War II, the university suffered damage in the Southampton Blitz with bombs landing on the campus and its halls of residence. The college decided against evacuation, instead expanding its Engineering Department, School of Navigation and developing a new School of Radio Telegraphy.

The university hosted the Supermarine plans and design team for a period, but in December 1940 further bomb hits resulted in it being relocated to Hursley House. The halls of residence were used to house Polish, French and American troops.

After the war, departments, such as Electronics, grew under the influence of Erich Zepler and the Institute of Sound and Vibration was established.

Based on these historic foundations as a civically aware and forward-thinking institution, our innovations include:

- We were a pioneer in forging special relationships with other universities to ensure high academic standards.
- We were one of the first universities in the world to have a department of electronics (founded 1947).
- We were a pioneer in supporting start-up businesses grown from the university (we have created more spin-out companies than almost any other UK university, including the largest ever successful university spin-out: Southampton Photonics).
- We were one of the first universities to embrace digital resources and create online-only courses accessible from around the world.
- We are a pioneer of using university research to successfully inform UK government policy.

- We are a pioneer in supporting a global academic environment with the creation of our Malaysian campus.

In addition, we support the wider cultural sector at local, national and international level with through our art school, Winchester School of Art, Southampton Institute for Arts and Humanities and two Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisations: John Hansard Gallery and Turner Sims Concert Hall.

The 21st century has seen us develop into a world-leading university.

We are famous for being both research-driven, and down-to-earth with the needs of business and society. We now have well over 20,000 full time students, and we are proud to see that they are continuing our traditions of innovation through dedication and hard work.

1.2 What it means to be a Civic University

Many universities are civically engaged but are not necessarily civic universities. The University of Southampton is an anchor institution in the region and the only Russell Group university on the south coast. As the second largest employer in the city of Southampton, we also make an estimated economic contribution of £1.3 billion per annum to the region. In addition, we provide education, research, knowledge exchange, culture and arts as well as healthcare, travel infrastructure, volunteering and graduate talent.

A truly civic university explains what, why and how our activity contributes to our civic role. Becoming a civic university allows us to rethink how our university contributes to our place, so that civic engagement can become embedded into our university culture.

We understand the importance of ‘Place’ and our position in those places. A key strand of government initiatives and strategies, including the Innovation Strategy, and the Levelling Up agenda, productive relationships with local and regional government, Local Enterprise Partnerships and local communities benefit our ability to deliver the University’s plans for growth and better align these to local as well as regional growth plans.

Over 50% of our UK based alumni live within 50 miles of the University (over 80,000 people), alongside ‘friends’ who support us philanthropically and otherwise, through their networks or personally. Articulation of the benefit the University brings to the region will help mobilise this powerful community—opening doors into companies, serving as ambassadors and champions, through philanthropic support or mentoring students.

The University of Southampton signed the Civic University Charter in December 2020, committing to develop a civic university agreement to define how we will work within our geography, and agreeing principles with key partners, including local government and other universities.

As a civically conscientious and proud university, our coat of arms signifies our strong connections with our local community, and our commitment to peace and advancement through learning. Together (across all disciplines) we believe we can be a positive force for change – one step at a time.



2 Our principles

Purpose and Vision

The University's core purpose and vision is to **inspire excellence to achieve the remarkable and build an inclusive world.**

Our [University Strategy](#) describes a commitment to **place** and being a Civic University. Our foundations and heritage make the University of Southampton a gateway to the world. We are deeply committed to Southampton as a cultural city and across the region will further develop our civic role to make a positive impact.

Our shared purpose drives us to find answers to the greatest challenges facing humanity. We will make a real difference and achieve the remarkable through the combined power of our people to achieve excellence in education, research and enterprise. Our people are at the heart of everything we do and the impact we make on a local to global scale. We aim to inspire communities working with us locally and globally to achieve the remarkable. We will work together to improve the lives and environment of people across diverse communities in a just and responsible way.

We will work with our civic partners and business to achieve socio-economic benefit. We are deeply committed to making a positive social impact, increasing social mobility, transforming lives and enhancing prosperity, both on the south coast of England and across the globe. We are proud to be a powerful civic partner that met the immediate challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by deepening our partnerships with the University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, local authorities, and schools.

We are now focused on collaborations to strengthen economies and sustainable communities near and far. The mutual strengths of our Triple Helix, coupled with our remarkable people, will power our ambitions for this goal. Develop Civic University Agreements co-designed with local groups, authorities, alumni, and partners to build sustainable communities, promote equality, improve health and wellbeing, transform educational opportunities, close the digital divide, and strengthen economic prosperity.

Underpinned by the four pillars of the Civic Charter and Southampton as truly civic University Place, People, Partnerships and Impact creates a sense of belonging and collaboration. We will do this by developing our civic partnerships and agreements, co-designed with Communities, Local Authorities and partners to drive the social, environmental, and economic benefits that are most vital to them and their places.

The University will become a truly integrated part of its local communities. By partnering with the people in our neighbouring area and their representatives, we will work together to drive the social, environmental and economic benefits that are most vital.

This will build sustainable communities, promote equality, diversity and inclusion, improve health and wellbeing, transform educational opportunities, close the digital divide and extend enterprise.

Working in synergy with local communities covering Southampton, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester, as a Civic University we will form part of a localised network –

Hampshire Universities Together - with our neighbouring universities. In doing so, the network will enable us to:

- share best practice;
- align civic efforts and activity for more effective, collaborative ways of working; and
- identify opportunities where collective responses are needed.

Together we can make a difference

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3 Our Places

The University of Southampton recognises the importance of our global, national and local reach of our partnerships and collaborations.



With campuses situated in Southampton, (Guildhall Square, Highfield Campus, Avenue Campus, Guildhall Square, Southampton General Hospital, National Oceanography Centre), Eastleigh (Sports Ground), Test Valley (Southampton Science Park) and Winchester (Winchester School of Art), our partnerships with civic leadership organisations and groups in these areas are essential in ensuring that collectively we can support the needs of our communities, sharing new knowledge and maximising impact to the benefit of all.

3.1 Our Civic Partnerships

The ever-changing global landscape has highlighted how quickly priorities can change and the need for universities and communities to respond to those challenges at local level in the times-scales required.

The last two years have shown how closely local, national and international challenges and events intersect. In turn, this has given rise to new opportunities, particularly in the virtual space. We are an integral part of Southampton, both physically and culturally, which we consider to be a great privilege and responsibility. At the same time, we belong to many other educational, cultural and industry networks. We will use our leverage in these wider eco-systems for the benefit and progress of our community'.

Working with our partners, we recognise the importance of collaboration, drawing on the strengths of our collective expertise, networks and understanding of research. Delivering mutually supportive programmes that directly recognise and respond to local need we will develop programmes that foster new ways of working with communities over the longer-term.

Higher Education

As a member of the Civic University Network at national level, we commit to working in partnership with our other civic universities locally through the Hampshire Universities Together (HUT) Network: Solent University, University of Portsmouth, University of Winchester.

3.1.1.1 Southern Universities Network

We are the host institution for the award-winning Southern University Network (SUN) Uni Connect partnership. Through SUN, we work collaboratively with our colleagues at other universities in the region to ensure that students from target wards have access to a range of collaborative outreach opportunities and targeted activity, led directly by the SUN team. As a partnership, we are currently devising ways we can use our combined resources to support attainment raising.

Primary, Secondary and Further Education

3.1.1.2 Southampton Education Forum

The Southampton Education Forum unites civic leaders within a framework of shared values, positioning members to gain individual and collective advantage through integrity, openness, commitment and capacity to work for the collective good. The Forum seeks to establish and maintain meaningful and deep-rooted support and trust between institutions and across phases by honouring confidentiality; championing excellence; valuing diversity and inclusion; recognising differing needs; and encouraging honesty and openness.

3.1.1.3 Inspire Learning Academy

Inspire Learning Academy aims to pursue excellence across our family of schools, where ethical, inspired and empowered leaders place children at the heart of everything; using their expertise and innovation to enable all to succeed. The Inspire Learning Partnership is committed to 'Transforming Lives and Building Futures' of all.



Inspire Learning Partnership is an educational charity limited by guarantee. We were established in October 2014 to Transform Lives and Build Futures of all and to relentlessly pursue excellence across our family of schools, where ethical, inspired and empowered leaders place children at the heart of everything; using their expertise and innovation to enable all to succeed.

We are committed to being anchor organisations in our communities and we work in partnership with other education, community and civic institutions to benefit our children and families. We are based in two hubs: on the Waterside and in Southampton. At present there are five member academies and a nursery: Blackfield Primary School, Fawley Infant School, Hightown Primary School, Kanes Hill Primary School, St Monica Primary School and Blackfield Nursery. More schools are joining the partnership in the coming year.

Local Council

We work cross-party in partnership with local councils in Southampton, Eastleigh, Test Valley, Winchester as well as Hampshire County Council.

3.1.1.4 Southampton City Council (SCC)

Southampton City Council's (SCC) vision is to create a city of opportunity where everyone thrives.

As a unitary authority, they are responsible for all local services within the city and provide the full range of local government services.

This includes:

- Council tax;
- Libraries;
- Highways;
- Social services;
- Processing planning applications;
- Waste collection and disposal;
- Housing;
- As a local education authority, SCC is responsible for some of the schools.

They manage around 700 different services - from foster carers to archaeology, recycling and cycle routes, public health (working alongside the NHS) or rock concerts in the park, as well as all day-to-day operations for 250,000 residents, 16,300 tenants, 6,000 businesses and over 3,000 employees.

Their customers include everyone living, working, volunteering, investing, studying, running a business in or visiting Southampton. Their main focus is to support customers, offering a range of helpful advice and resources from public health and social care to getting into work.

3.1.1.5 Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC)

Eastleigh Borough Council: Supporting Communities, Improving Lives

Eastleigh Borough Council is proud of what it has achieved. As a medium-sized district council with a £65 million turnover and big ambitions, it has delivered a large number of major projects and initiatives, ensuring it continues to be progressive and innovative in its approach. The Council employs over 500 professional staff at various sites and serves around 136,000 residents, as well as a diverse range of businesses. Its vision is to develop healthy communities, a green borough, business prosperity, and high-quality homes for its residents. Its frontline services are delivered to a high standard and led to it being named Council of the Year 2022 in the UK-wide awards scheme run by the Association for Public Service Excellence.

Investing in communities

In recent years, the Council has delivered a wide assortment of capital projects focused on putting its communities and customers first - from the development of Places Leisure Eastleigh (one of the largest leisure centres on the South Coast) and the nationally recognised Stoneham Football Complex to a new M&S Foodhall in the town centre and an eco-friendly visitor centre at Lakeside Country Park. The Council has also moved its offices to the heart of Eastleigh to provide better access for its customers and ensure a high profile.

Promoting ‘fossil-fuel free’ living

The Council’s largest project is One Horton Heath where the Council is leading by example on sustainable development at its flagship 310-acre development. One Horton Heath is different from other developments since, as both landowner and developer, the Council is ensuring that 2,500 quality new homes are delivered alongside the provision of the right infrastructure, which will include roads and cycle ways, a primary school, a vibrant local centre, and a host of connected open spaces and informal areas where wildlife can thrive. The focus is very much on people and not profit, and a range of pioneering initiatives and investments will make it one of the most sustainable developments in the country.

Through continued investment in the Borough of Eastleigh, the Council has created a successful property portfolio, including The Ageas Bowl international cricket venue, a four-star Hilton Hotel and spa, car dealerships and a long list of major brands among its commercial property tenants, together with its various housing initiatives that deliver much needed homes for the Borough. This successful and sizeable property portfolio helps support the Council’s ambitions to deliver for its communities, as well as generating £9 million in income a year to help support frontline services.

Putting customers first

The Council is committed to providing excellent services for its residents and customers, and is viewed as a friendly and approachable organisation that works hard for its communities. It is respected by its key partners and its culture is based on staff supporting each other to achieve results, as well as being known in the region for its willingness to try out new things, be innovative and take risks.

3.1.1.6 Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC)

Test Valley Borough Council are a local government district and borough in Hampshire, England, named after the valley of the River Test. Its council is based in Andover. The borough was formed on 1 April 1974 by a merger of the boroughs of Andover and Romsey, along with Andover Rural District and Romsey and Stockbridge Rural District.

They currently have 43 Councillors representing 20 wards. Their Chief Executive, Andy Ferrier, drives our values and vision to be committed to improving the lives of all the people of Test Valley and a total commitment to providing high standards in everything they do.

They are an ambitious, innovative and optimistic Council with the confidence to deliver.

This is based on:

- putting their residents and communities at the heart of their decision making;
- their long track record of entrepreneurial successes;
- their culture, which is focussed on delivery;
- their investment in their communities, councillors and staff.

Their investing approach is embodied within the corporate plan titled 'Investing in Test Valley'. It seeks to deliver sustainable foundations for the future to ensure the Borough remains a great place to:

- Live, where the supply of homes reflects local needs;
- Work and do business;
- Enjoy the natural and built environment;
- Contribute to and be part of a strong community.

TVBC are values driven. They are committed to high standards in everything they do, shaping their behaviours and building their reputation in the eyes of their residents.

Their five values are:

Accountability	-	They are accountable to all people of Test Valley for their actions and how they use resources, ensuring that they provide value for money;
Ambition	-	They are a dynamic organisation committed to achieving, improving and innovating;
Empowerment	-	They are an organisation committed to continuous learning, enabling and motivating all their people to do their best work;
Integrity	-	They ensure that as an organisation, their communities can trust them to act fairly and honestly, and so can their staff;
Inclusiveness	-	They value diversity, promote equality of opportunity for all, and ensure that their services are accessible to everyone in Test Valley.

3.1.1.7 Winchester City Council

The Winchester City Council district covers the ancient settlement of the city of Winchester itself, but also covers a large area of central Hampshire, including Bishop's Waltham, Denmead, New Alresford, and Kings Worthy, for a total area of 255.2 square miles (661 km).

It manages a wide variety of services. They have responsibility for planning, housing, waste collection, Council Tax and Business Rates collection, leisure services, tourism, benefits administration and many more services.

The Council Plan 2020-25 sets out the priority outcomes for the Council and identifies the important issues that will be addressed over the life of the Plan through the work of the Council and its partners.

The Council Plan, which was adopted at Council on 15 January 2020 and replaces the previous Council Strategy 2017-20, is focused on five key outcomes that they want to achieve in the coming years, in a way that is consistent across their aims.

These priority outcomes are:

- Tackling the climate emergency and creating a greener district;
- Homes for all;
- Vibrant local economy;
- Living well;
- Your services. Your voice.

The outcome of their combined aims will be a district where everyone enjoys the opportunities and quality of life that come from living in the Winchester District.

3.1.1.8 Hampshire County Council

Hampshire County Council governs eleven of the thirteen districts geographically located within the ceremonial county of Hampshire. As one of twenty-four county councils in England, they act as the upper tier of local government to approximately 1.4 million people.

The County Council's role is to act strategically and implement policy as determined by Cabinet. This means delivering services to the people of Hampshire (and sometimes beyond) in an open and cost-effective way. The Council acts in the best interests of Hampshire and its residents.

The Voluntary Community Sector

Southampton Voluntary Services (SVS) is the umbrella body for local voluntary and community groups working in Southampton.

SVS provides a wide range of services, including specialist support, advice and training to our membership. They also provide and promote information to individuals and organisations on volunteering in the city. Southampton Voluntary Services (SVS) is housed in the Voluntary Action Centre, which is a purpose-built resource for the voluntary sector in Southampton.

Volunteering and involvement in voluntary action can be a powerful tool for personal and social change. It can help the volunteer to grow as much as the recipient of their volunteering - it reconnects people to the world of work or training, helps them retrain expertise or attain new skills, build confidence, purpose or self-worth. Through giving up their time people make new friends and inter-community connections, and it can be a source of personal pride, self-achievement and social value.

Business and Enterprise

3.1.1.9 Solent LEP

The Solent LEP is led by the business community and supported by three university partners, the further education sector, three unitary authorities, eight district councils, one county council and the voluntary and community sector – all working together to secure a more prosperous and sustainable future for the Solent area.

Further Civic Partnerships

3.1.1.10 Southampton Connect

Southampton Connect is an independent partnership which brings together senior city representatives seeking to address the key challenges and opportunities for Southampton and working with the city's key partners to improve the outcomes of the people of Southampton. It is responsible for the delivery of the Southampton City Strategy with the vision that Southampton is a city of opportunity where everyone thrives.

3.1.1.11 Southampton City of Culture Trust

Southampton City of Culture Trust aims to put Southampton and the wider region on the map, both nationally, regionally and internationally. It is helping to attract inward investment. The trust aims to raise aspirations and upskill our workforces, leading to the establishment of new businesses and creating quality jobs that will attract and retain talent in the city.

3.1.1.12 Cultural Education Partnerships

The Southampton Cultural Education Partnership (SCEP) is a growing consortium of diverse organisations working together, in partnership with Artswork, to nurture creative and cultural education for all. Their aims are:

- To work with those working with children and young people and their families, embedding creative learning from the early years;
- To promote and support delivery of the arts and culture as part of a broad and balanced curriculum;
- To work through the arts to reduce inequalities in educational attainment, health and wellbeing for children and young people deemed to be at risk;
- To provide transferable skills and open up pre-employment opportunities enhancing accessible progression routes into the creative and cultural industries and other areas of work.

Led by Hampshire Music Service, the Hampshire Cultural Education Partnership (HCEP) is a consortium of diverse cultural organisations working together, in partnership with Artswork, to nurture creative and cultural education.

3.1.7.4 The Purpose Coalition

The University has joined the Purpose Coalition, a partnership of universities, businesses and third sector organisations combining to progress social mobility. The Purpose Coalition assessed the University's impact against its Levelling Up Goals and found our commitment to be exceptional, with significant strengths in four key areas: successful school years; right advice and experiences; closing the digital divide; and achieving equality through diversity and inclusion. Levelling Up continues to be a part of government policy, and we will ensure we contribute to this agenda in the context of our own community.

Child Friendly Southampton

Our vision is for Southampton to be recognised as a [Child Friendly City \(CFC\)](#): we want all children and young people in Southampton to have a good start in life, live safely, be healthy and happy and go on to have successful opportunities in adulthood. We will work together to create a city where all children – whether they are living in care, using a children's centre, or simply visiting their local library – have a meaningful say in, and truly benefit from, the local decisions, services and spaces that shape their lives.

City of Sanctuary

As part of our commitment as a University of Sanctuary, we work closely with the City of Sanctuary Trust. In partnership with the HUT network, we will also work collaboratively with our other Universities of Sanctuary and Cities of Sanctuary in Winchester and Portsmouth.

3.1.1.13 Southampton City of Sanctuary Trust

City of Sanctuary Southampton is a group of professionals and volunteers who work together to make Southampton a warm and welcome place for refugees and asylum seekers.

3.2 Our Unique Agreement: We can be Truly Civic in partnership

As a university, we recognise our unique role at local, regional as well as national and international levels. This Civic University Agreement sets out where we can make an effective contribution to civic life in partnership with stakeholders.

Through our partnerships, we will work with regional partners to share knowledge, skills and expertise in mutually productive partnerships. We will be an active partner with our local areas, including the City of Southampton, to celebrate diversity, and connect people through culture, education, research, and enterprise to create new economic and social opportunities.

Further creating a sense of belonging and place by positioning Southampton and our other partner geographical areas (Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester) as well as the wider region to benefit from regional political opportunities [*levelling up*].

As an anchor institution, we will work with our partners, staff, students, residents and communities to be part of a strong and united community. Collectively, we will make a positive social impact, facilitate evidence-informed decision making, increasing social mobility, transforming lives and enhancing prosperity.

3.3 Civic Conversations and Communications

Developing partnerships, and deeply understanding the needs of our partners, is central to our Civic University Agreement. It is through this perspective that the University will identify new ways of reaching out and working with civic stakeholders. We will do this through a series of regular Civic Conversations amongst our senior leadership networks and Civic University-related groups. These will both identify emerging needs, but also keep in constant review our progress at addressing our partners' priorities to our mutual benefit.

4 Our priorities

Over the last two years, in consultation with our partners, we have identified seven priority areas that will help shape our ways of working over the next five years. These priorities have been identified and defined by internal and external consultation, based on a Theory of Change Framework. Further informed by intelligence gathering including policy mapping, externally commissioned economic impact assessment, Civic Conversations with local council/Civic Leaders, critical friend support and advice with our local voluntary and community sector, residents' associations, and Southampton City of Culture Trust.

Whilst understanding the need for agility and flexibility in our collective efforts and ways of working in partnership, consultation findings with civic stakeholders from across our local areas where the University has a presence, have informed our plan with seven prioritised areas of activity and our agreed statement of intent/s:

Education, Learning and Future Jobs	With our partners will help to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to learn and access education that is wide ranging and across the life cycle.
Research, Innovation, Enterprise, Business and Economic Growth	We recognise the importance and collective strength of our continued local partnerships in supporting economic growth and prosperity through high-quality research, innovation, enterprise and business.
Staff, Students and Graduate Support and Retention	As one of the biggest employers locally committed to the real living wage, we will work to better understand how we can further develop programmes that support local need through volunteering, placements, work experience, paid internships and enhancing the necessary infrastructure that enables talent and graduate retention in our regions,
Health and Wellbeing	Recognising the importance of wellbeing and understanding health disparities in our communities, we will strengthen and further develop partnerships with service providers and other support agencies through research and initiatives for the betterment of all.
Improving the Quality and Cultural Life of our Places	Through our long-standing commitment, investment in arts and culture and our partnerships at national, regional and local level, we will collectively help to improve the quality and the cultural life of our places.
Environment, Sustainability, Decarbonisation and Biodiversity	Collectively we will help to make changes for the betterment of the environment, through our research and learning programmes that interconnect with local Green City Plans.
Social Justice and Equality	As an equitable University, we take seriously our collective values in promoting social justice and equality with our partners, which recognises and celebrates the diversity of our places and communities.

4.1 Our Agreed Actions and Key Performance Indicators

Based on these seven priority areas, together with our partners, we will action the following over the next five years.

Education, Learning and Future Jobs

Access to education, learning and skills development for future jobs and lifelong learning is paramount to the success of local places and communities. In partnership with education forums, learning providers, businesses and LEP's, we will help to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to learn and access education that is wide ranging and across the life cycle.

A highly educated/developed work force will make the region more attractive to employers and businesses looking to grow.

Widening access and participation through our training, outreach, engagement activities and partnerships, we will ensure greater equity in access to education, training and learning for the betterment of all.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
Working with our partners across Southampton, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester to support social mobility, and Levelling-Up widening and extending access to educational and learning opportunities that widen participation for all ages and backgrounds.	We will continue our commitment to the Social Mobility Pledge further developing and expanding education and learning opportunities through the Southampton Connect Board, to complement and steer forward levelling-up goals in our work with The Purpose Coalition, which best reflects the individual needs of our geographical areas.	Specifically, we want to:	Commit to the Social Mobility Pledge by further developing and expanding education and learning opportunities through the Southampton Connect Board.
		We will measure this by:	The number of quality engagements we undertake with the Southampton Connect Board
		It is achievable because:	We are actively pursuing this partnership for strategic reasons
		This is relevant because:	This is an opportunity for us to use our expertise as an educator to support social mobility in our local community
		We hope to do this within:	By 2025
Further develop opportunities for lifelong learning across the life cycle with, by and for our communities including short courses; events; activities within UoS Festivals programme.	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	Encourage and support activities/content for UoS Festivals which is co-produced with community partners.
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc

Research and Innovation, Enterprise, Business and Economic Growth

We recognise the importance of our local partnerships with Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and Community Interest Companies (CICs) in supporting economic growth and prosperity through high-quality research, innovation, enterprise and business. We will Champion positive change to achieve international excellence by investment schemes that strategically enhance our diversity that attracts top talent into the region and local areas. By doing so, we will help to attract, support, and keep the next generation of research leaders from across the world, from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

We will secure funding to invest in one or more interdisciplinary research centres within our local areas, which will harness the breadth of our research, ranging from the creative and performing arts, the humanities to the social, physical and life sciences to address global, national, regional and local challenges and achieve socio-economic benefit.

Using the University's renowned marine research excellence, working together in partnership with the city's heritage and position as one of the UK's major gateways to the world, to create a more environmentally sustainable maritime future.

We will develop a sustainability and resilience hub to improve our impact in this key area that aligns with the needs of local authorities, councils and communities. This will ensure we remain a partner of choice in both established partnerships and in the development of new relationships with a breadth of organisations, from industry to the third sector.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
Embedding Civic activities in research grants and activities from across different scales in investment from UKRI to internal development funding. Developing and nurturing collaborative approaches to research and innovation that is based on need.	Further promote these opportunities increasing co-designed developmental funding applications with researchers and communities from 10% to 30% by 2026/7.	Specifically, we want to:	Increase the instances of researchers and local partners working together to explore and address local needs, e.g., via seed-funded engagement activities (Civic Strand in PERu annual Development Fund).
		We will measure this by:	Tracking Development Fund applications/funded projects.
		It is achievable because:	Civic Strand has funded 10 projects in its first year (55% of total funded projects).
		This is relevant because:	Civic Strand was designed to meet this Civic objective.
		We hope to do this within:	by 2026/7.

Being open to business and collaborate to innovate. Creating and attracting new companies to the region and so jobs and supporting the local economy. We will help innovative companies grow and thrive and to bring solutions to support local needs. - Delivered by Science Park, Corporate & Business Engagement, Skills development and training, spinouts and start-ups nurtured by business acceleration and incubation FutureWorlds and SETsquared.	Top 10 of UK Universities for spin-out value; Achieve top 10% of UK Universities for funding obtained in collaboration; IP Commercialisation; Enterprise Units; Facilities Access; USSP expansion of services; Student Enterprise; Business Incubation & Acceleration.	Specifically, we want to:	tbc
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc
Work with partners to identify local research needs and make sure that these are understood by the relevant investigators in our university community so that they can be included in funding bids.	% of researchers connecting working in collaboration with communities and % of collaborative funding bids submitted.	Specifically, we want to:	Collaborate with local partners to establish a Community Research Network – via UKRI CRN Call.
		We will measure this by:	Success of EoI application and progress to phase 2 funding.
		It is achievable because:	Existing partnership work provides the basis for application.
		This is relevant because:	UKRI have launched major call to fund this type of work.
		We hope to do this within:	Aligned with timeframe of project phases 1 & 2.

Staff, Students and Graduate Support and Retention

Our staff, students and graduates and support mechanisms such as SUSU and their clubs and societies make a significant contribution to places and communities. As one of the biggest employers locally, we will work to better understand how we can further develop programmes that support local need through volunteering, placements, work experience, paid internships and enhancing the necessary infrastructure that enables talent and graduate retention in our regions and local places.

By developing inclusive student communities, we will create an outstanding experience that ensures students can follow their own paths, feel supported to thrive, and enjoy a sense of pride and belonging as members of the wider community. We will encourage them to thrive and enable them to contribute their full potential.

Developing students' futures, we will work in partnership to enable them to be the leaders of tomorrow, who will transform the lives of others. We will ensure our graduates will be recognised for their distinctive Southampton characteristics: curious; engaged; articulate; ethical; culturally aware; enterprising; and socially and environmentally responsible.

We will support our students' post-graduation to become part of our vibrant alumni community. Strengthening these links enhances graduates' career development and supports them to share their skills and connections with future students (the Ignite Programme being an example), including those that are locally based.

We will build a flourishing, diverse and inclusive community with a local, regional, national and international outlook, enabling staff, students, alumni and our civic partners to thrive.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
Introducing the Vice-Chancellor's Progression Scheme, focused on Widening Participation students progressing on to postgraduate courses.	Number of WP students progressing from undergraduate to postgraduate level study; Target by 2027: 100+ students progressing annually.	Specifically, we want to:	Increase the number of students from underrepresented groups progressing to postgraduate study.
		We will measure this by:	The number of students supported through the scheme.
		It is achievable because:	We will appropriately resource the programme and develop information and support measures.
		This is relevant because:	The number of students reaching postgraduate level is far lower amongst those from underrepresented groups.
		We hope to do this within:	By 2027.

		Specifically, we want to:	Embed student voice in the Civic effort and understand the potential and need for Civic related internships.
Scope and (where needed) develop, a Civic University Internship programme that creates a sense of belonging and supports civic activity with by and for our partners and build on the Student Innovation Programme, Placements and KTPS with Strategic Corporate Partners, spinouts and scaling SMEs.	Scoping potential for Civic University student internship by End of July 2022 with recommendations for a pilot, with the potential to support up to 5 internships on a rolling basis annually.	We will measure this by:	Number of internships being supported and embedded/working in partnership with community organisations.
		It is achievable because:	We will work in collaboration with colleagues from WP/SM to Student Careers.
		This is relevant because:	It supports our strategic aims in student experience and as an outcome of our consultation with civic partners.
		We hope to do this within:	Outcome of scoping: by End August 2022 with potential for pilot on/from: 2023.
As a significant resource supporting and working collectively with local communities, we will foster further opportunities for volunteering and internships with staff, students, graduates and alumni in partnership with voluntary action organisations such as Southampton Voluntary Services. We will also support our graduates through engaging with our local alumni community through platforms such as E-Mentoring.	The Campaign for Southampton will have an ambitious 'volunteering hours' target (tbc), placing volunteering at the heart of the culture of the University as One Southampton, with the potential to engage the civic community, alongside alumni, staff and students; Development of a Volunteering Working Group, represented by internal and external stakeholders including voluntary services, to identify opportunities and local need and advise on volunteering target hours.	Specifically, we want to:	Seek to recommend to Campaign Leadership Group a volunteer hour target for the Campaign for Southampton.
		We will measure this by:	Having the target approved by Campaign Leadership Group.
		It is achievable because:	We will do this as members of the Volunteering Working Group via the Working Group meetings.
		This is relevant because:	Civic is a key stakeholder in setting and achieving our volunteering Campaign target, specifically around developing volunteering opportunities which support Civic University priorities.
		We hope to do this within:	By end of FY 2022/23.

Possible studentships and Fellowships for Archives and Special Collections - can include element of helping improve collection description for digital discovery. Also research focussed on underrepresented voices from the Archives.	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	tbc
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc
Sponsoring and working with SUSU on Real Student Stories project to bring underrepresented student stories to the SJMB.	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	tbc
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc

Health and Wellbeing

Through our research, engagement activity and civic partnerships, we will contribute towards the development of Integrated Care Systems and future iterations of local Health and Wellbeing Strategies. Through our Sports and Wellbeing facilities, we will support opportunities for local people to engage with a variety of sports and physical activity.

Through our education offer, we will continue to respond to the needs of teachers and pupils by designing and delivering curriculum enhancing programmes such as Life Lab. From our partnerships and services with Public Health, NHS, Trust Clinical Commissioning Groups, Community Engagement Hubs and work with community-based organisations such as SVS, SO: Linked and Health Watch to our Sports and Gym Facilities, and cultural venues, we can collectively support improvements to health and wellbeing locally.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
Creating a new state-of-the-art Interdisciplinary Research Facility with our partner NHS Trust, to engineer better health. This will bring together world-class teams to drive innovation; speed the transfer of novel ideas into new interventions from bench-to-bedside; transform the future of healthcare; and save lives faster.	Engineering Better Health achieves its funding target, and results in a step change (+£10M/yr.) in external research and enterprise funding in this area.	Specifically, we want to:	Complete review of University Strategic Interdisciplinary Research Institutes. Implement interdisciplinary research process (sandpits to centres) and attract ambitious proposals. Prepare concept paper and business case for a new state-of-the-art interdisciplinary research Facility with UHST.
		We will measure this by:	Revised governance arrangements implemented. Revised (5 yr) strategies and annual business plans for each institute (SMMI, WSI and IfLS) approved and funded. Proposals translated into options paper and business case. Business case approved and funded.
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	By 2025.
Further developing our Health and Wellbeing Community Engagement Hub which connects those with a shared interest.	Secure effective spread/reach of contribution to collaborative activities via a Civic HUB by 2025.	Specifically, we want to:	Review and develop Hub membership to secure effective spread/reach of contribution to collaborative activities (post Lockdown re-energising).
		We will measure this by:	Tracking Hub membership/contributions/activities.
		It is achievable because:	Established Hub with strong membership, pre-Lockdown.
		This is relevant because:	Hubs are a key mechanism for Civic activity/ development.
		We hope to do this within:	2023-25.

Through our research we will contribute towards the development of Integrated Care Systems and future iterations of local Health and Wellbeing Strategies.	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	tbc
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc

DRAFT CUA 005

Improving the Quality and Cultural Life of our places

The quality and cultural life of our places in Southampton, Eastleigh, Test Valley and Winchester is essential to the overall wellbeing of communities, both in terms of social and economic prosperity and enrichment. We will be working in partnership with local councils and cultural partners.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
To actively involving all members of the community to co-create and engage with a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences.	Key partners in the Cultural Education Partnerships: Southampton, Hampshire; Connecting Culture Programme (aligned to Child Friendly Southampton) reaching 600 children and young people aged 5-16 years in 16 wards across Southampton and 10 young people aged 16-25 as co-researchers and cultural leaders; Arts on Campus programme; John Hansard Gallery; Turner Sims Concert Hall and Engaged Campus; Libraries; Southampton Institute for Arts and Humanities (SIAH); Winchester School of Art (WSA) and capital development.	Specifically, we want to:	We will develop, grow and engage audiences and communities that reflect the diversity of our local communities by creating exciting and innovative programmes that are locally engaged and nationally recognised for their ambition and quality. Success will result in larger, more diverse and more engaged audiences.
		We will measure this by:	A range of activities, programmes, and partnerships (see NPO aims).
		It is achievable because:	There are strong relationships already in place, dedicated teams and allocated resources .
		This is relevant because:	Our activities will engage, co-create, develop and support the wider communities of Southampton.
		We hope to do this within:	1-3 years .

		Specifically, we want to:	We will provide research and evidence needed to support future funding bids.
		We will measure this by:	UoS named as lead researcher.
		It is achievable because:	Once Trust is set up, bids will incorporate funding to cover research costs.
		This is relevant because:	We have identified the need for a research framework through the City of Culture needs assessment.
		We hope to do this within:	from Autumn of 2022 for X years.
		Specifically, we want to:	We will have set up a Civic Leadership Programme to develop a new generation of Civic Leaders (potential to link to Southampton Business School / Transforming Leadership training).
		We will measure this by:	Tracking the number of participants.
		It is achievable because:	We have a track record of supporting cultural leadership programmes.
		This is relevant because:	We have identified the need to increase cultural leadership across the city through the City of Cultural needs assessment.
		We hope to do this within:	by 2024/5.

		Specifically, we want to:	JHG & WSA collaboration to place Gandhi letters at heart of JHG exhibition, which will tour in India.
Collaborations to place unique and distinctive material in broader civic spaces.	tbc	We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc
Opportunities to bid for funding to improve digital access to our collections working with academic partners.	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	AHRC Knitting collection project with workshops at GHT, Peter Cook Postcards made available through Digital Viewer, a possible big bid with Digital Humanities is in the forward plan that Department.
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc

Environment, Sustainability and Biodiversity

Collectively, we will help to make changes for the betterment of the environment through our research and learning programmes, that interconnect with local Green City Charters.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
<p>Working with civic and community partners such as those standing for the voluntary and community sector, through the Green City Plan and strategic plans alongside our Environment and Sustainability Strategy, Nature and Biodiversity and Future Cities Hub, we will reduce our carbon footprint. Through our research we will work to offer tools to local businesses, public bodies and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint and develop the technologies of the future.</p>	<p>Development of outcomes from the pilot Green Social Prescribing programme with Southampton Voluntary Services supporting up to eight community groups.</p> <p>Reigniting the Future Cities Hub (increasing local membership to %)</p> <p>Reestablishment of scientific advisory support, expertise and research.</p>	Specifically, we want to:	As Green Social Prescribing is a crossover subject between Nature and Biodiversity Hub and Health and Wellbeing Hub, and the two Hubs are now working together to be able to support such initiatives when requested by the project team.
		We will measure this by:	Work with community leaders such as the newly formed Southampton Climate Action Network leads, to explore how UoS researchers can support civic initiatives via the Future Cities hub.
		It is achievable because:	Evidencing connections made through the Hub that lead to partnerships, collaborative working, new projects and outputs.
		This is relevant because:	The Hubs are a proven route to achieving mutually-beneficial outcomes by connecting UoS researchers with community practitioners.
		We hope to do this within:	Ongoing – to be introduced as business as usual.

Making sustainability a cornerstone of our research, engagement activity and societal impact.	Celebrate University research and engagement around biodiversity, sustainability, environment; actively engaging/involving our local publics/community within this work, for local benefit (societal/individual) .	Specifically, we want to:	Strengthen the potential for collaborative activity via our Community Engagement Hubs (Nature & Biodiversity; Future Cities).
	% Number of people from the community engaging with the research of UoS and as partners, collaborators and participants.	We will measure this by:	Tracking Hubs membership/activities.
		It is achievable because:	Hubs track record already set up, from which to build.
		This is relevant because:	Hubs are a key mechanism for Civic activity/development.
		We hope to do this within:	2023-25.

Social Justice and Equality

Promoting social justice and equality is fundamental to our collective efforts and values as a community partner and University. As a partner of the Southampton City Inclusion Pledge and partner of the Cities of Sanctuary becoming a University of Sanctuary, we recognise and celebrate the diversity of our places and local communities.

We will do this by:

Action	KPI	SMART	
Become a University of Sanctuary.	Apply to become a University of Sanctuary.	Specifically, we want to:	Submit an application that highlights the great work taking place in the university already.
		We will measure this by:	Working across the university to pull together different workflows and project work that ties with this area of work.
		It is achievable because:	As part of the awarding process, we must submit an application form. We can then expect a visit 6-8 weeks after their decision on the application.
		This is relevant because:	Being awarded the title of University of Sanctuary ties the work together with the CUA.
		We hope to do this within:	Submitting in Autumn 2022.

			<p>Collaborate with STAR.</p> <p>Have a working group.</p> <p>Imbed the workflow of sanctuary seekers into university charters, such as the Mental Health Charter, working closely with EDI.</p> <p>Part of this will be recognising the university as a hub of community activity for those seeking sanctuary and those supporting them- through charity organisations.</p> <p>Providing a warm and welcome campus across all the university campuses, for those seeking sanctuary, both for students and the local community ensuring services on campus are accessible.</p>
After being awarded University of Sanctuary status – Delivery of University of Sanctuary.	We will work on integrating the work outlined in the application across the university to ensure the commitment to the work continues.	Specifically, we want to:	<p>We will measure this by:</p> <p>Working group meetings with university wide representatives.</p> <p>Increased numbers in the SUSU STAR group.</p> <p>Increased applications to the Sanctuary Scholarship.</p>
		It is achievable because:	Working closely with the STAR group and national STAR group to ensure communication of the scholarships.
		This is relevant because:	It highlights a level of engagement, more students engaged in STAR and 2 filled scholarship places.
		We hope to do this within:	In accordance with the 3 year plan from submission.
Introduce two UoS Sanctuary Scholarships 2022-23.	Remove some of the financial barriers to education, specifically higher education for sanctuary seekers.	Specifically, we want to:	Implement two Sanctuary Scholarships.
		We will measure this by:	Having two students who complete their studies who otherwise wouldn't have been able to access HE.
		It is achievable because:	Part of the application form is that they have no access to funding to support their HE journeys.
		This is relevant because:	It is a vital part of our application to become a University of Sanctuary that we have scholarships that become an embedded part of our work.

		We hope to do this within:	By start of September term 2022-2023. 1 year for PGT and 3 years for the UG scholarship. There will be two new scholarships on offer every year. At any one time we might have around 8.
Working with the City of Sanctuary team and HUT/University of Sanctuary Action Group, we will develop and work towards on our collective efforts as Universities of Sanctuary.	By Spring 2023 we will have been awarded University of Sanctuary status with a range of areas of support, including scholarships for those seeking asylum and refuge and CARA.	Specifically, we want to:	We will have developed a joint programme marking Refugee Week with our HUT and City of Sanctuary colleagues.
		We will measure this by:	Working collaboratively to plan events that complement each individual university.
		It is achievable because:	Common goals within each institution.
		This is relevant because:	It is embedded within our internal and external strategic commitments.
		We hope to do this within:	June 2023.
Making our own spaces more welcoming and accessible e.g. Hartley refurb and other site opportunities will consider Library of Sanctuary perspective & porous spaces for digital scholarship creation, exhibitions and public interface opportunity (including alumni, KEE activity).	tbc	Specifically, we want to:	tbc
		We will measure this by:	tbc
		It is achievable because:	tbc
		This is relevant because:	tbc
		We hope to do this within:	tbc

5 Timescale of the Civic University Agreement

Aligned with our University Strategy, the Civic University Agreement has a five-year timescale (2022-2027). Whilst the Action Plan sets out our goals, partners recognise that our agreement and plan should also be flexible, agile and responsive of local need and changes, acting in real time. As such, there will be scope within our governance structure that provides further opportunities for this to happen.

6 Governance, Monitoring and Review

Governance of the Civic University Agreement will be overseen by a Civic University Steering Group/Board or similar and an operations group/Civic Action Group will steer forward the CUA as it moves towards implementation phase. This could also be supported by a civic university forum, to periodically (once or twice a year) bring together people engaged in relevant activities to share and celebrate what is being done.

We will monitor progress through the Civic Monitoring Group and Civic University Steering Group (meeting every 6 to 8 weeks)

The CUA will be reviewed every two years in alignment with local election cycles. Recognising the complexities of our action plan objectives will be reviewed and evaluated according to their identified KPI's and measurement of outcomes and success.

7 How we will measure the impact of our Civic University Agreement

Structured around a shared framework (see sub-section 8.2) we will measure the progress of our agreement against our internal and independent baseline polling, which includes understanding public perception of the University, barriers and challenges. This also aligns with Theory of Change benchmarking exercises will be conducted through the Civic Working Group every 2 years.

7.1 Impact Measurement

We will measure the impact of the Civic Agreement through economic and social value assessment alongside the joint cultural needs assessment. Using Social Network analysis and Arnstein's Ladder of Participation will enable us to monitor how the agreement has shaped, enhanced and extended our partnerships and reach over time. Our CUA Evaluation and Impact Measurement Framework

This framework, underpinned by the four Civic pillars, (People, Place, Partnerships and Impact) will enable us to collectively understand how we measure-up as our partnerships and engagements develop and progress over time.

When	Evaluation and Impact	Purpose	Civic Pillars: People, Place, Partnerships and Impact
Baseline and intermittently	Theory of Change exercise (internal) Public Polling (external)	Understand how, over the 5-year agreement, the University is perceived both internally and externally.	People and Place

When	Evaluation and Impact	Purpose	Civic Pillars: People, Place, Partnerships and Impact
Baseline and intermittently	Economic Impact Assessment Joint Cultural Needs Assessment/CoC25 Bid	Our economic contribution to our places now and over time. Place-based research for the Southampton 2025 City of Culture bid.	People, Place, Partnerships and Impact People and Place
tba	Social Value Assessment	How we contribute to our places and make a difference as a social resource/ asset (for e.g., volunteering, placements, our work with schools etc).	People, Place, Partnerships and Impact
tba	Social Network Analysis; Activity Mapper Arnstein's Ladder of Participation	How these networks and partnerships, develop, grow and expand. Ways in which we work in partnership moving from participation and consultation to co-creation.	Partnerships Place and Partnerships

Theory of Change

Explains how a given intervention, or set of interventions, are expected to lead to a specific development change, drawing on a causal analysis based on available evidence which we will carry out internally. This will be further supported by;

Public Polling

An opinion poll, often referred to as a poll or a survey to gather public opinion from a particular sample.

Economic Impact Assessment

Examines the effects of a project or proposed policy change on the local economy. In this instance, the scope identifies how, as a university, we make an economic impacting on by and with our local communities, as well as regionally, nationally and internationally.

Ultimately, Economic Impact Assessments provide a transparent measure of the economic importance of our work.

Joint Cultural Needs Assessment

The purpose of a Joint Cultural Needs Assessment Guidelines is to support arts and cultural organisations in the planning and delivery of cultural outcomes that address a wide range of locally determined needs in their communities, including cultural needs.

Social Value Assessment

Social value is the quantification of the relative importance that people place on the changes they experience in their lives. Some, but not all of this value is captured in market prices. It is important to consider and measure this social value from the perspective of those affected by an organisation's work.

Social Network Analysis

Is the process of investigating social connections and networks. It characterizes networked structures in terms of nodes or rather, individual actors, people, or things within the network and the ties, edges, or links (relationships or interactions) that connect them.

Activity Mapper

Using our Activity Mapper tool, we will be able to determine why, where and how these networks develop. For further information about Activity Mapper, visit:

<https://www.efolio.soton.ac.uk/blog/activitymapper/>

Arnstein's¹ Ladder of Participation

The ladder is a guide to seeing who has power when important decisions are being made moving from the bottom rungs to co-creation and/or citizen control.

¹ Reference: Sherry R. Arnstein's "A Ladder of Citizen Participation", Journal of the American Planning Association, Vol. 35, No. 4, July 1969, pp. 216-224.

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