

PARTNERING FOR SUCCESS: INDUSTRY'S ROLE IN SHAPING IRELAND'S LIFE SCIENCE STRATEGY

A COLLABORATIVE VISION BY IPHA AND HEALTHTECH IRELAND



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NOVEMBER 2025

The Irish Pharmaceutical Healthcare Association (IPHA) is the representative body for the research-based biopharmaceutical industry in Ireland. IPHA has 41 member companies in two divisions: prescription medicines and self-care.

HealthTech Ireland is an independent trade association for manufacturers, developers and distributors of health technology products, solutions and services to the health system in Ireland. HealthTech Ireland provides a forum for the development and advocacy of policies that support innovation in health technology to address patients' healthcare needs.

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CONTEXT

Ireland stands at a pivotal moment to shape a future where life sciences drive both economic prosperity and health system transformation.

This summary outlines three interconnected pillars that reflect national priorities and global opportunities, aligning with government and HSE strategies considering best international practice and factors of success.

VISION

To be a world-leading hub in life science innovation, renowned for its integrated ecosystem, to secure prosperity, and build a healthier Ireland.

MISSION

To have a future ready, dynamic ecosystem that connects cutting-edge research, innovation, diagnostics and digital health technologies with patients while supporting Ireland's thriving manufacturing footprint.

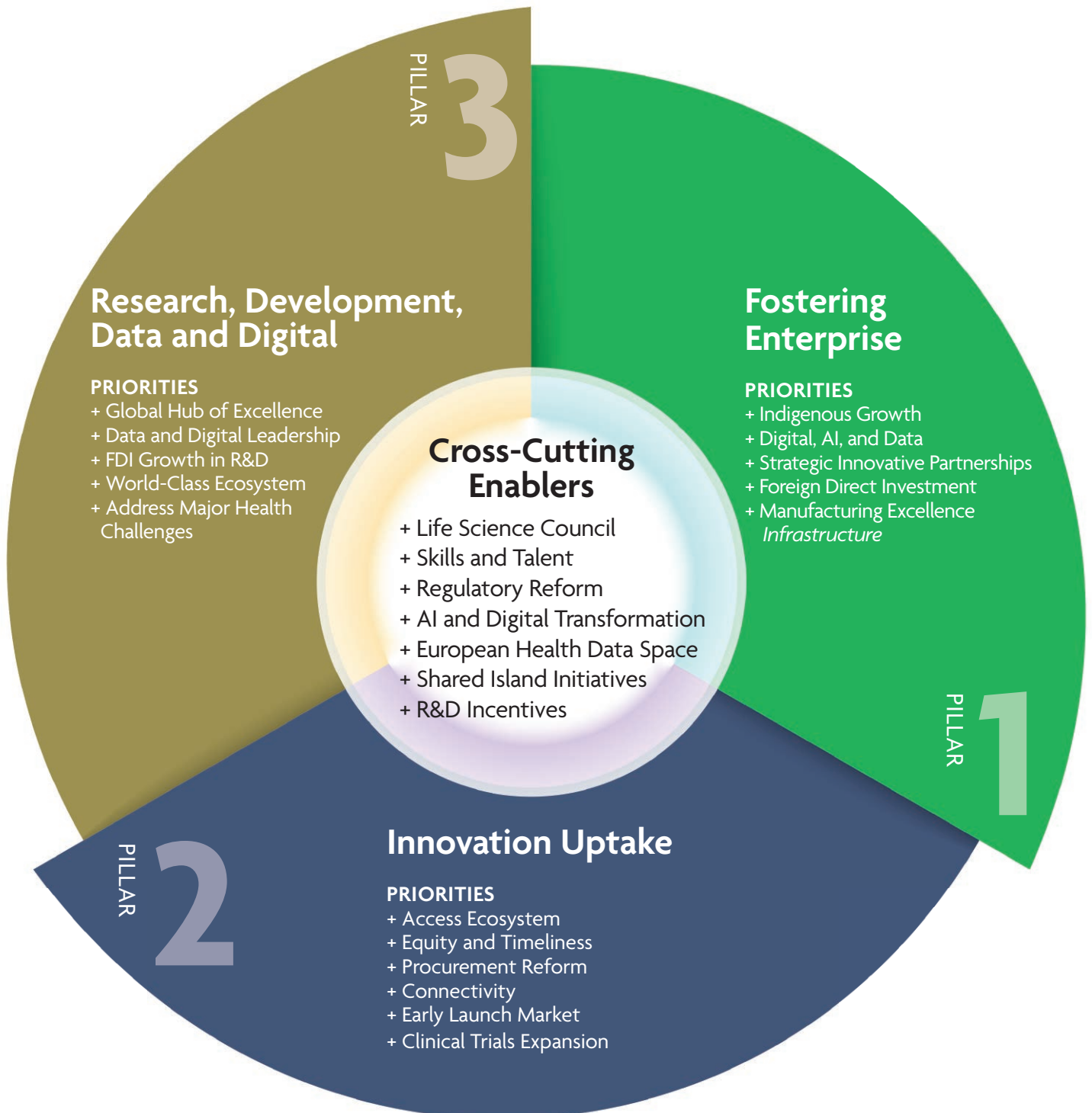
Through strategic collaboration across government, industry, and academia, we aim for sustainable economic growth, to improve public health outcomes, nurture our skilled workforce and ensure timely access to transformative treatments for all.

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PILLAR 1 Fostering Enterprise

Accelerate Ireland's position as a world-leading hub for innovation, investment, and sustainable growth grounded in essential strong policy alignment and cross government cohesion.

PRIORITIES:

- + **Indigenous Growth** – Nurture home-grown life sciences enterprises, from start-ups to scale-ups.
- + **Digital, AI, and Data** – Advance and strengthen competitiveness via next-generation technologies.
- + **Strategic Innovative Partnerships** – Facilitate cross-sector collaboration connecting the right experts at the right time to unlock synergies between government, academia, and industry.
- + **Foreign Direct Investment** – Sustain Ireland's reputation as a top destination for high-value investment and grow our leadership in attracting further FDI.
- + **Manufacturing Excellence** – Protect and expand Ireland's advanced manufacturing capacity.
- + **Infrastructure** – Prioritise investment in strategic sites and digital infrastructure to meet future demand.

PILLAR 2 Innovation Uptake

Ensure the value of our cutting-edge life science innovations, medicines and technology translate into real world impact for patients in Ireland and health system through rapid integration and adoption.

PRIORITIES:

- + **Access Ecosystem** – Accelerate access to digital tools, data, medicines, and clinical trials.
- + **Equity and Timeliness** – Deliver innovation benefits to patients swiftly and fairly.
- + **Procurement Reform** – Shift to value-based models and outcome-driven purchasing that reward outcomes, not just cost.
- + **Connectivity** – Integrate systems, records, and services to enable rapid scale-up of solutions and enhanced healthcare outcomes for patients.
- + **Early Launch Market** – Position Ireland as a priority market for innovation introduction.
- + **Clinical Trials Expansion** – Maintain momentum in trial numbers, speed of initiation, and cost competitiveness.

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PILLAR 3 Research, Development, Data and Digital

Become a global hub of excellence for research and innovation that underpins the health and the wealth of the nation by leveraging Ireland's existing manufacturing and clinical strengths.

PRIORITIES:

- + **Global Hub of Excellence** – Make Ireland synonymous with high-impact life sciences research.
- + **Data and Digital Leadership** – Enable precision medicines, advanced diagnostics and digital health adoption through Government initiatives.
- + **FDI Growth in R&D** – Move up the value chain in international investors perception.
- + **World-Class Ecosystem** – Ensure facilities and networks meet the best in global standards.
- + **Address Major Health Challenges** – Prioritise areas of unmet need such as cancer, dementia, and chronic disease management.

CROSS-CUTTING ENABLERS

- + **Life Science Council** – Create the capability for trusted, ongoing cross sector input to deliver on all ambitions.
- + **Skills and Talent Pipeline** – Develop, invest, and retain the workforce needed for a high-value life sciences economy and to build a future-ready workforce in STEM, AI, clinical, regulatory.
- + **Regulatory Reform** – Streamline regulatory pathways to support innovation uptake.
- + **AI and Digital Transformation** – Embed these technologies into healthcare delivery, manufacturing, and research.
- + **European Health Data Space** – Position Ireland as a leader in leveraging European-wide health data to drive innovation and enhance care delivery.
- + **Shared Island Initiatives** – Collaborate across the island to pool expertise and resources.
- + **R&D Incentives** – Evolve supports to encourage innovation while ensuring fiscal sustainability.



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KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Key recommendations for Government to promote Ireland as a global launchpad for life sciences innovation:

1. Establish a Life Sciences Council

A permanent, high-level forum for government–industry–academia collaboration.

2. Accelerate Digitalisation of Healthcare

Implement the three National Strategies with urgency.

3. Fast access to Innovation

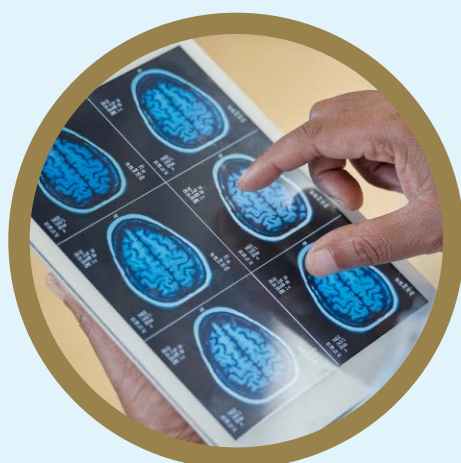
Ensure rapid patient access to medicines, diagnostics, and digital solutions.

4. Strengthen R&D Investment

Match leading life sciences nations in investment and incentives.

5. Enable Innovative Partnerships

Support cross-sector collaboration for shared benefit



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