



South West
Academic Health
Science Network

Dr Stuart Monk
SW AHSN
Pynes Hill Court
Exeter
EX2 5AZ

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Dear Habib,

Potential for Taunton Innovator Site

The South West Academic Health Science Network (SW AHSN) works across the commercial sector and the third sector to identify proven products and services, then spreads these appropriately into the South West Peninsula's healthcare and wellbeing systems through the NHS and local authorities.

We engage with the Chambers of Commerce and the Local Enterprise Partnerships across our region to ensure that health and wellbeing remains on our economic growth agenda. There are pockets of digital health innovators springing up in Devon and Cornwall and we believe that Somerset has equal potential to host healthcare entrepreneurs from around the UK and the rest of the world. The population in the South West is relatively stable and elderly, so provides a great potential research and testing site for innovators wishing to develop new health and wellbeing products.

Somerset's healthcare system is passionate about improvement and innovation, and is open to conversations with those that are developing new products as-well as those with proven solutions that the healthcare system could already be benefitting from.

We work with all of the NHS organisations in Somerset, which has a reputation nationally for being one of the more innovative and forward thinking NHS environments. For example, the NHS England New Models of Care Vanguard work in Yeovil has linked primary and secondary care services and data sets, to enable enhanced care delivery through more joined up clinical pathways. The population of Somerset's general practice records can now be observed in the county's Acute Trusts, meaning patients can arrive in hospital with the reassurance that their clinical history can be easily accessed.

Somerset is a great place to live and work, and we believe healthcare entrepreneurs and innovators would benefit enormously from considering Taunton as a possible site for their ventures. We would be very supportive of Habib's vision to make Taunton a world class site for healthcare innovation and would be delighted to contribute to any further conversations around this concept.

Kind regards,

Dr Stuart Monk
Director of Innovation
South West Academic Health Science Network (SW AHSN)

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Pynes Hill Court, Pynes Hill, Exeter EX2 5AZ