

I2SL UK Chapter Impact Report May 2026

A Letter From The Chair



Phil Macdonald
Chair, I2SL UK Chapter

On behalf of the I2SL UK Chapter Steering Group Board, I am delighted to introduce our first Impact Report for the year 2025-26.

It has been a very busy and exciting first year for us as we have started to build I2SL's presence here in the UK.

This report sets out some of the activities we have been focusing on – building our organisational structures, recruiting new members and electing our first Board of Directors – and then the important work of organising and running events, research activities and other initiatives for our members.

The report also sets out our targets for the coming year, which includes broadening the range of activities we are providing as well as increasing our reach to locations right across the UK.

We have been hugely encouraged by the excellent engagement from organisations right across the UK science and research sector – owners, operators, occupiers and service providers have all found value in getting involved.

My sincere thanks goes firstly to our Founder Members who have generously contributed to the funding of our start up and first year operational activities. Without you, none of this would be possible. A list of our Founder Members is included in the report.

I must also extend my thanks to everyone who has played a part in this first year. From our interim Steering Group Board who oversaw the early start-up phase, to our elected Board of Directors and Chapter Officers who came on board at our General Meeting last September, who have worked hard to bring us to where we are now. Thanks are also due to the executive team at I2SL and fellow Chapter Officers around the world who have provided us with so much guidance and support in getting to this point.

Membership of the I2SL UK Chapter is open to anyone who is connected to, and has a passion for, safety and sustainability considerations in the planning and management of facilities for science and research here in the UK. If you want to find out more, please contact us at uk-chapter@i2sl.org.

*Kind regards
Phil Macdonald
Chair, I2SL UK Chapter*

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Impact Summary

In 2025, the I2SL UK Chapter successfully established itself as a credible and emerging forum for stakeholders involved in sustainable laboratory design, operation and performance across the UK. The Governance & Structure, Research & Technical, Events & Marketing and Membership & Communications working groups all played a central role in launching the Chapter, building early momentum and ensuring members could see tangible value from engagement during its inaugural year.

Through the development of clear governance structures, coordinated technical forums, event delivery, consistent communications and the establishment of digital channels, the Chapter created opportunities for members to connect, learn and participate in shaping the UK laboratory sustainability agenda.



UK Chapter Steering Group Board

Brad Cochran, Rebecca Finlay, Andrew Somerville, Elad Levin, Philip Macdonald, Phil Kelly, Nick Jones, Tracy D'Souza, Thomas Holbrow, Sarah Moore, Laure Le Maire

2025 – 2026 Highlights

Membership, Communications & Events



Increased visibility of I2SL UK through **coordinated event promotion, newsletters and digital communications**, supporting strong interest and engagement during the Chapter's formation.



Grew membership by **97%** from a total of 71 founding members in March 2025 to **140 member organisations** in March 2026.



Launched and managed the I2SL UK Chapter **LinkedIn** presence, growing to **366 followers in the first year**, and strengthening awareness of the Chapter across the sustainable laboratory community.



Established consistent **communication channels** to keep members informed about events, publications, speaking opportunities and sector collaboration initiatives.



Delivered the Chapter's **inaugural programme of launch, technical and networking events**, primarily in London, engaging founding members and industry stakeholders.



2025 - 2026 Highlights

Governance & Structure



Held our first **General Meeting** where our **Steering Group Board** was **formally elected**, with four new Company Directors who each have designated Office roles as well as three new Deputy Officers.



We also further developed our **governance policies, articles of association** and **operational procedures** with the support from our legal advisors (Mischon de Reya) and our accountants (Goldwyns).

2025 - 2026 Highlights

Research & Technical



Established the **Research & Technical committee**, comprising individuals from across the industry to provide a varied perspective on sustainable laboratory initiatives which we have begun to develop and share with our wider membership cohort.



Held an in-person **Lab Benchmarking Tool (LBT) technical workshop** to train our member organisations and promote the features of the LBT tool with the aim to understand, monitor and reduce operational energy consumption of science and research buildings.



Increased the **LBT UK entries** from 0 to 5 buildings, reaching 25% of our initial target.



Collaborated with world-leading Russell Group university, **King's College London**, to understand the operational energy consumption of a typical ageing research university and support reduction opportunities.

Events Summary

UK Chapter Inauguration and Launch 30 April 2025 Hosted by Elliot Wood	The formal inauguration of the I2SL UK Chapter introduced members to its mission, governance and future direction. The event enabled early relationship-building across the founding community and set expectations for collaborative, practice-led engagement. Presentation of <i>The Circle of Life...Science</i> whitepaper, peer reviewed by I2SL members, provided industry context and anchored the Chapter’s ambitions in real-world laboratory sustainability challenges.
Introduction to the I2SL UK Chapter (Education Week) 7 April 2025 Hosted via I2SL US Online	Delivered as part of I2SL Education Week, this session introduced the purpose of the UK Chapter and its connection to the wider I2SL organisation. It provided early visibility of UK activity within a global programme, helping new and prospective members understand how UK participation aligns with international research, tools and education.
UK Sustainable Laboratories Panel Discussion 9 April 2025 Hosted via I2SL US	This panel discussion explored sustainable laboratory challenges and opportunities from a UK perspective within an international context. The session brought together multiple viewpoints and enabled engagement with I2SL-led discussion without requiring in-person attendance, supporting accessible knowledge exchange early in the Chapter’s development.
Benchmarking and Performance Event 11 June 2025 Hosted by Cundall	A technically focused event connecting UK members with global I2SL expertise. Dr Alison Farmer, Board Director of I2SL USA and Tracy D’Souza, Research & Technical Director of I2SL UK presented international benchmarking work with a focus on the Laboratory Benchmarking Tool, supported by UK perspectives. The session strengthened understanding of how data-led approaches can inform sustainable laboratory design and performance decisions.
General Meeting and Summer Social 17 September 2025 Hosted by Victoria House	The General Meeting combined formal governance, including election of the Chapter’s first Board, with informal networking. Clear communication of leadership roles and priorities supported transparency and confidence in the Chapter’s direction, while the social setting encouraged relationship-building across disciplines and organisations.
London Life Sciences Week Event November 2025 Hosted by UCL Sainsbury Wellcome Centre	Delivered during a key sector moment, this event brought together researchers, sustainability professionals and industry specialists to share applied insight into laboratory energy use and performance. Case studies and peer discussion reinforced the Chapter’s relevance to live life sciences challenges and its role as a convenor within the sector.

Member Communications

During 2025, regular newsletters were established to provide members with structured, relevant updates. Content included Chapter activity, event information and signposting to I2SL's global initiatives such as Labs2Zero, the Laboratory Benchmarking Tool and the AIM Report. Communications focused on clarity and usefulness, helping members stay informed and identify opportunities to engage or contribute.



Digital Presence

The launch and management of the I2SL UK Chapter LinkedIn channel created a dedicated platform for event promotion, insight-sharing and awareness-building. Growing the channel to 366 followers in its first year increased visibility of the Chapter and helped position I2SL UK as an active and evolving professional community.

Strategic Value Delivered in 2025

Collectively, I2SL UK Chapter activity in 2025 helped ensure that membership of I2SL UK offered practical value rather than passive affiliation. Members benefited from structured opportunities to connect with peers, learn from global and UK-based expertise, and contribute to shaping an emerging professional community focused on sustainable laboratories.



2026 – 2027 Targets

In 2026-27, the Research & Technical, Events & Marketing and Membership & Communications working groups will focus on sharing sustainable laboratory technical expertise, expanding national reach, increasing engagement and strengthening member value. Our key priorities for 2026-2027 include:



Delivering two key technical publications that will form the first chapters of the I2SL UK Chapter Sustainable Laboratories Framework.



Increasing the quantity of UK entries within the I2SL Lab Benchmarking Tool to 20 unique buildings.



Forming key partnerships with member organisations to build a UK sustainable laboratory case study database, showcasing innovation in the reduction of energy, water and waste across design and operation.



Delivering regional events beyond London to improve accessibility and national representation.



Launching a structured marketing and communications calendar aligned to all Chapter events, campaigns and partnership opportunities.



Supporting the launch of a new Chapter website to act as a central hub for information, resources and member engagement.



Growing awareness and engagement through stronger digital performance, including email reach, social media interaction and event registrations.



Increasing end-user representation.



Conducting a membership survey to understand priorities for the chapter going forward.

Summary



In its inaugural year, the I2SL UK Chapter successfully established strong foundations through shared technical knowledge, targeted events, consistent communications and growing digital visibility. The combined efforts of Research & Technical, Events & Marketing and Membership & Communications ensured members could see clear value in engagement, access credible expertise and contribute to a growing UK sustainability community.

The focus for 2026–27 is to build on this momentum by broadening reach, deepening engagement and continuing to align activity closely with member needs. With this in mind, we are keen for our Chapter to have an active membership where all member organisations participate in supporting the Chapter work towards our mission and collectively support the decarbonisation and sustainable design and operation practices across our UK laboratories.

In conclusion, we record our sincere thanks to all our Members, our Founder Members who provided much needed financial support to get the UK Chapter up and running, our Sponsors and all those who have supported our events and activities throughout the year. Also, thank you to Mischon de Reya and Goldwyns for their help and support in getting us up and running. And last but not least, the I2SL Board and Executive Team for all their positive support, guidance and encouragement.

We are excited for our second year of activities and look forward to building the I2SL UK community over the next 12 months.



I2SL UK Chapter Steering Group Board



Phil Macdonald
Director, Chair



Elad Levin
Director, Vice-Chair



Galvin Tarling
Director, Treasurer



Andrew Somerville
Director, Secretary



Tom Holbrow
*Director, Membership &
Communications Officer*



Nick Jones
*Deputy Membership &
Communications Officer*



Rebecca Finlay
*Director, Events &
Marketing Officer*



Laura Le Maire
*Deputy Events & Marketing
Officer*



Tracy D'Souza
*Director, Research &
Technical Officer*



Phil Kelly
*Deputy Research &
Technical Officer*

I2SL UK Chapter Founder Members

3PM
Aecom
Allies & Morrison
Arup
Aryium
Asecos
Astra Zeneca
Atelier Ten
Aviado Bio
Barts Life Sciences
BCR Infinity Architects
BDP
Bennetts Associates
BioMed Realty
BMJ Architects
Bruntwood SciTech
Bulb Interiors
Buro Happold
CHC-Labs
Clean Air Ltd
CPP
Cundall
Curve Workplaces
EEDN
Elliott Wood
Exigere
Gensler
Gleeds
Glencar Construction
HDR
HKS
Hoare Lea
HOK
Imperial College London
Kadans Science Partner
Kings / Guys & St Thomas's
Kings College London
KJ Tait
Lexica Health & Life Sciences Consultancy Limited

Linesight
London BioScience Innovation Centre
Mace Construct
MedCity - London & Partners
Morgan Sindall
NBBJ
Oberlanders Architects
Ocean Consulting
Overbury
Perkins & Will
Pioneer Group
Polestar
Price & Myers
PTS Consulting (UK) Limited
Qoda
Queen Mary University London
Ramboll
Restore Harrow Green
RH Partnership
Rider Levett Bucknall
Ridge & Partners
Roxtec
S+B UK Ltd.
Sciopolis
Scotch Partners
Scott Brownrigg
Sheppard Robson
UCL Sainsbury Wellcome Centre
University College London
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Edinburgh
University of Glasgow
University of Oxford
Urban & Civic
Veolia
Wates
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