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# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ASSISTED LIVING CENTRE

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# CETAL

Centre of Excellence for Telehealth  
and Assisted Living

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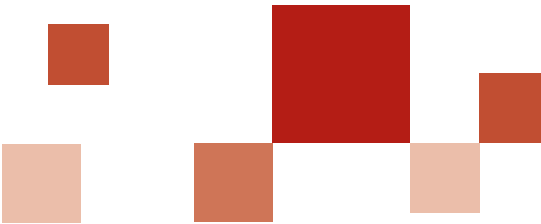


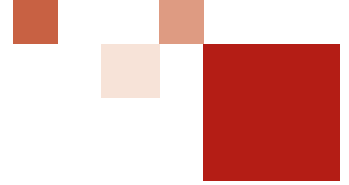
# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ASSISTED LIVING CENTRE

Our aim is to create a ‘living lab’ in Buckinghamshire to research, develop and demonstrate assisted living technology for educational and commercial purposes. The lab will support a range of assisted living courses, from entry level to higher education, which will be delivered close to other teaching spaces.

Buckinghamshire New University’s Centre of Excellence for Telehealth and Assisted Living (CETAL) will provide the lead expertise for the lab, which will be known as the Buckinghamshire Assisted Living Centre.

Initially, our offer will be provided through the Innovative Telehealth and Assisted Living Ideas and Applications (ITALIA) research project. Funded by the Intellectual Property Office, the project will encourage a range of companies that are new to the telehealth sector to work together to design and proffer new products. The project will also facilitate interaction between users and the creators of telehealth products; we will respond directly to the needs of users, whilst building upon the requirements of service providers.





The next stage will be to market our assisted living courses to other local authorities and to public and private care providers. The living lab will also provide opportunities for Health and Social Care Diploma students studying at Aylesbury College and students at Bucks New University to engage with our specialist portfolio.

The Centre will provide the focus for a range of research bids in the areas of telehealth, telecare and telemedicine. Our aim is to generate income from teaching, training, and the development of new technology by providing exhibition, development and marketing support, as well as receiving sales commissions.

Our clients will come from a range of sectors, including:

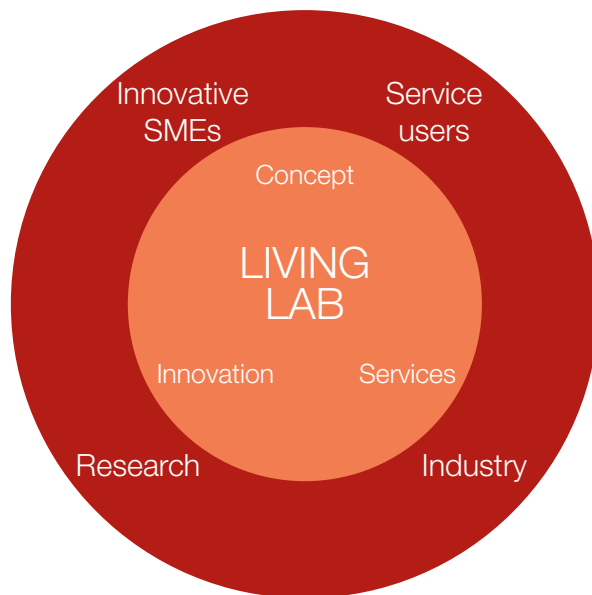
- companies in the telehealth, telecare and assisted living areas
- county councils
- health and social care professionals
- new companies hoping to enter this area of market specialisation
- new entrants to the public sector health care market
- private health care operatives
- research councils and other funders
- students.





The expected benefits are manyfold. The Centre will be one of the first bespoke delivery sites for the provision of this type of education in the region. It will provide learning opportunities for health care students, demonstration and trial facilities for service users who need this type of equipment, and a research and development 'test bed' for commercial companies. We aim to achieve national significance and high profile recognition for our sponsors.

Our proposals respond to the Government's agenda on skills deficit areas and to a range of other government agenda activities. Being able to offer students real-life working and demonstration experience will ensure that they are ready for work when they leave university or college.





## **About Buckinghamshire New University**

Buckinghamshire New University (Bucks) has an established history of research into telehealth and has collaborated with a diverse group of strategic organisations including Aylesbury College, Aylesbury Vale District Council, Buckinghamshire Business First, Buckinghamshire County Council, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and the associated National Centre for Spinal Injuries at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, and national enterprise partners, to encourage investment and innovation in telehealth and support the delivery of health and economic benefits.

## **What are telehealth and assisted living?**

Telehealth is the remote monitoring of a patient's medical condition. Through telehealth, deterioration in a patient's condition can be detected within days rather than months. Assisted living is a philosophy of care and services promoting independence and dignity. Coordinating the delivery of services by health care providers and monitoring patients' activities helps to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of service users.



## **What is CETAL?**

Buckinghamshire New University's Centre of Excellence for Telehealth and Assisted Living (CETAL) is an enterprise centre which aims to ensure that the University, health care providers and industry work in partnership to maximise the potential of evolving telehealthcare technologies. This will contribute to the modernisation of health and social care services.

## **What are the aims of CETAL?**

CETAL aims to assist with the telehealth implementation process (planning, piloting, commissioning, delivery, governance, finance and evaluation) and develop telehealth packages that combine tested clinical service models with assessed technology. We aim to present workable telehealth services based around specific clinical needs. Although prepared as generic models of practice, these packages are provided with the consultancy, educational and technological support required to tailor them to any NHS or other health care provider.

CETAL aims to set out a framework for continued collaboration and partnership, driving improvement and development in the use of telehealth solutions. The focus will be to ensure that a range of client groups and their carers have equal access to the potential benefits that telehealthcare technologies can realise.





## What are the functions of CETAL?

CETAL's functions are to:

- bring together telehealth expertise from academia, primary and acute care, local authorities (social care), industry and third sector partners to develop new service concepts;
- secure research funding for the development of future tools, methodologies and business solutions for the application of new technology;
- provide events and courses which establish the University as a major centre for telehealth and telecare innovation;
- offer a range of services to health care providers and industry, supported by our research, evaluative and educational expertise. Services are available individually or as packages that combine tested clinical service models with assessed technology.

## What can CETAL offer you?

We offer:

- research across a full range of telehealth domains to evaluate telehealth service innovations;
- consultancy by working with public and private sector organisations to look into clinical and service expertise, market and product expertise, and educational and workforce expertise;
- evaluation of projects and services provided by public and private sector organisations;
- teaching and learning including the provision of public lectures and specific training programmes designed for clinical staff working with telehealth and telehealthcare systems.

## How will CETAL achieve its aims and functions?

CETAL is using the 'living lab' model as the basis for its proposals. A 'living lab' is a real-life test environment where users and producers work together to create new products and services.

CETAL believes that 'living labs' have become a powerful instrument for effectively involving the user at all stages of the design, research, development and innovation processes. We are committed to using the model to develop telehealth services.

“This project provides a range of opportunities for inter-sectoral round-table discussions between service users, clinicians, technologists, researchers and industry to debate and address key issues relating to how technology, in particular telehealth, can be used to co-design and deliver a range of remote access support systems and services for people with a range of longer-term conditions.

“The essence of our project will be the development of telehealth solutions to address key health issues encountered by service users and their clinicians. We can work together to collect and analyse essential patient-related clinical data, permitting effective self-management through efficient interaction between clinicians and patients at home.”

## **Firas Sarhan**

Director of CETAL



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