

UK COLLABORATORIUM FOR RESEARCH ON INFRASTRUCTURE & CITIES Inspired infrastructure for better living

Introduction to UKCRIC

## **UK Collaboratorium for Research on Infrastructure and Cities**



A portfolio of research and innovation facilities and programmes with a mission to underpin the renewal, sustainment and improvement of infrastructure and cities in the UK and elsewhere.

### **UKCRIC**



- 15 UK universities
- Major National Institute for Infrastructure & Cities research
- Similar to Royce, Turing and Crick Institutes, but distributed around the UK and multi/trans-disciplinary / multi-application
- 3 strands: laboratories, urban observatories, DAFNI

www.ukcric.com

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#### **Partners**

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University College London
Cranfield University
University of Edinburgh
Heriot Watt University
Imperial College London

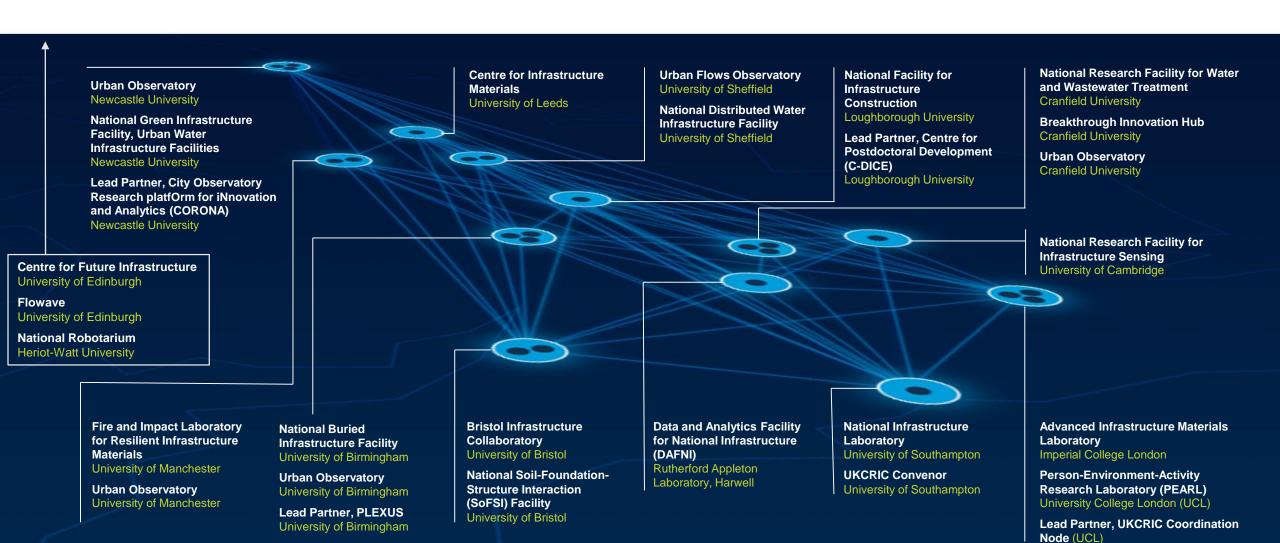
University of Leeds
University of Loughborough
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Oxford
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton

#### Affiliated facilities

V-Simulators labs at Bath and Exeter

### **UK Research Facilities and Programmes**







#### **Urban observatories**

Newcastle University
University of Birmingham
University of Bristol

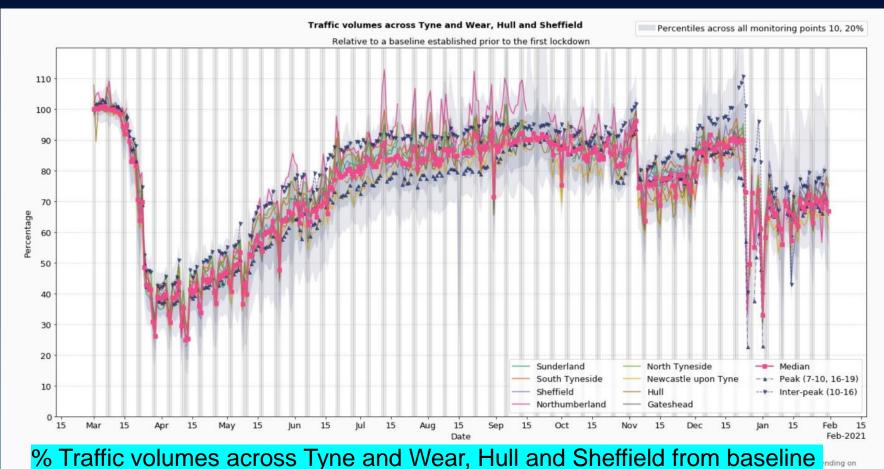
University of Sheffield Cranfield University



#### Investigating

- Air quality
- Flood Management
- Public Health
- Transport
- Machine learning
- Smart Buildings
- Effects of Covid-19

Open source real time urban data



March 2020 (pre 1st lockdown) to Feb 2021 (Phil James; Newcastle University)

# Data Analytics Facility for National Infrastructure



- Part of the UKRIC community
- Computational platform to support data analysis and infrastructure research
- Large scale analysis, data access, software and visualisation

#### **UKCRIC Missions**



## Transformational infrastructure and urban systems for a changing world

 Enabling infrastructure and urban systems to adapt to the challenges of climate change, changing patterns of use, societal expectations and emergent technologies

### Infrastructure and urban systems for one planet living

• Empowering society to thrive within the capacity of the planet through responsible consumption, resource efficiency and sustainable growth

### **UKCRIC Missions**



## Ownership, governance and business models for infrastructure and urban systems

 Coping with greater system interdependencies, changing patterns of use and new, disruptive technologies whilst at the same time delivering social justice and affordability

## Infrastructure and urban systems as drivers of equity, inclusion and social justice

 Forging healthy, happy and productive lives for all through urban design, planning, policy and infrastructure

### Stakeholder engagement



- Net Zero Coalition Working group/Mott MacDonald
- Resilience Shift/ARUP; NIC resilience consultation; London Resilience Forum
- ICE, IET, RAEng, NIC, IPA, I3P, TTAG, CIRIA, BEIS, DfT
- Digital Framework Task Group, Digital Twin Working Group, CDBB, STFC
- Greater Metropolitan Region Strategy, Newcastle, NSW, Australia
- Singapore: NTU, Govt., National Research Foundation, A\*STAR
- Local Authority Workshops: Key Cities, Southampton; Core Cities, Manchester
- PAS 186 Smart Cities Consultation
- National Preparedness Commission

.....among others.....

### International community



UKCRIC Advisory board chaired by Lord Robert Mair

- Conferences with strong UKCRIC presence
  - Urban Transitions Conference, Barcelona, 2018
  - ISNGI, Buenos Aires, 2019
  - International No Dig, Florence, Sept 2019
  - International Transdisciplinary Conference, Gothenburg, 2019
  - ISNGI, Rotterdam, September 2021

### **CDTs** and early career researchers



#### CDTs at UKCRIC universities

- WiRe: Water Infrastructure and Resilience Centre for Doctoral Training (Cranfield University, Universities of Sheffield and Newcastle)
- Water Wiser (University of Leeds)

C-DICE Centre for Postdoc Development in Infrastructure, Cities and Energy (Universities of Loughborough, Birmingham, Cranfield)

- Training linked to UKCRIC and ERA facilities
- Development funded placements and secondments
- Sandpit Programme to generate novel solutions to the net zero carbon challenge
- Impact delivering knowledge exchange events

# Research projects involving UKCRIC universities



- PLEXUS (Priming Laboratory Experiments on Infrastructure and Urban Systems)
- CORONA (City Observatory Research platfOrm for iNnovation and Analytics)
- ACHILLES (Assessment, Costing and enHancement of long life, Long Linear assEtS) programme grant
- Urban Green Design and Management of SUDs
- Pervasive Sensing of Buried Pipes (Pipebots) programme grant
- Transforming Construction Network Plus
- Twenty65 & Self-Repairing Cities Grand Challenge grants
- Network Rail CP6 research framework contracts (Southampton, Birmingham, Huddersfield, Newcastle, Notts, Loughborough, Heriot Watt, Sheffield)

# **Example collaborative bids** coordinated by UKCRIC



- UKRI Interdisciplinary Circular Economy Centre for Mineral Based Construction Materials (Imperial, Leeds, Loughborough, Sheffield)
- Transforming Construction Network Plus (UCL, Imperial)
- RHOMBUS mental health and wellbeing in built environment (Bristol, Manchester, Birmingham, UCL)
- REPLENISH Engineering infrastructure and cityscapes for health (Birmingham, UCL, Southampton)

### **UKCRIC** Vision



- Recognised nationally and internationally as THE UK Centre for Infrastructure and Cities Research
- Go-to place for advice to policymakers and government
- Intimate linkage with local authorities for delivery of 21<sup>st</sup> century cities and infrastructure
- Strong collaborations with industry to promote technological / technical advance
- Every major infrastructure / cities project an informed learning experience
- Every major infrastructure / cities project engages with all relevant disciplines, sectors, other stakeholders; embraces systems thinking / practices; and works in a transdisciplinary manner towards true excellence and sustainability

#### Get in touch.....



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UKCRIC newsletter