



## Welcome from Professor Daniel Figeys Director and Chief Executive

Thank you for your interest in joining the Quadram Institute.

The Quadram Institute is at the forefront of the new interface between food science, gut biology and health, developing solutions to worldwide challenges in food-related disease and human health. The Institute combines excellent patient care and clinical research from the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital alongside the Quadram Institute's scientific expertise in food, nutrition and health on the Norwich Research Park.

This is a significant opportunity to work at the forefront of integrated food and health research within the state-of-the-art Quadram Institute, located at the heart of the Norwich Research Park. QIB is strategically supported by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) of UK Research and Innovation. Through partnership with the BBSRC, the University of East Anglia (UEA), and the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital (NNUH), the aim is to deliver world-leading expertise in food science, microbiology, bioinformatics, and clinical research.

Our new strategy is built around three strategic directions that will shape the next phase of our science and partnerships:

- 📌 **Healthier Lives:** advancing precision nutrition and microbiome-based interventions to improve health across the life course;
- 📌 **Safer Food:** tackling microbial and xenobiotic risks and ensuring the integrity and resilience of the food system; and;
- 📌 **Future Food:** developing next-generation crops, ingredients, and dietary solutions that support sustainable and healthy diets.

This is an exciting opportunity as Chair to have significant impact on an organisation in a unique partnership between science, academia and health research, as the Institute enters a phase of significant growth and increased global impact.

This information pack provides further details about QIB, our research, and the strong collaboration with the Norwich Research Park. You can also explore more about our work and ambitions at [www.quadram.ac.uk](http://www.quadram.ac.uk).

We look forward to your application and to the possibility of welcoming you to our community.

Professor Daniel Figeys,  
Director & Chief Executive, Quadram Institute

## Background



Quadram Institute is the £75 million state-of-the-art food and health research and endoscopy centre that was developed in partnership between Quadram Institute Bioscience (QIB), the University of East Anglia (UEA), the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital (NNUH) and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

Capitalising on the world-class bioscience cluster based at the Norwich Research Park, QIB is strategically funded by BBSRC, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI). The Institute leverages a world-class bioscience cluster and an extensive network of national and international collaborators to translate fundamental discoveries into tangible benefits for patients, consumers and society.

The mission of Quadram Institute is to improve human health by uncovering how food, gut physiology, microbes, and the microbiome influence diseases and healthy living. Scientists and clinicians use this knowledge to develop evidence-based strategies to maximise positive impacts of food on health, from early life to the extension of a healthy lifespan in old age and reduce the economic and societal costs of chronic diseases.

The future of research at Quadram Institute Bioscience is exciting.

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## About Norwich Research Park



Norwich Research Park, located just outside the historic city of Norwich, England, is a community of independent research organisations with world-leading science credentials.

The Norwich Research Park community consists of:

- Quadram Institute
- John Innes Centre
- University of East Anglia
- The Sainsbury Laboratory
- Earlham Institute
- Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital

From the soil to our health, researchers across Norwich Research Park are trying to solve huge global challenges: ensuring there is food security and safety for a growing population, preventing and treating diseases, and mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change.



The NRP also supports translational spin-out and start-up companies and attracts investment from corporate organisations involved in science and technology from across the globe.

[www.norwichresearchpark.com](http://www.norwichresearchpark.com)

## Vision and Values



Quadram Institute Bioscience (QIB) creates new interfaces between food science, gut biology, human health and disease, capitalising on the world-class bioscience cluster based at the Norwich Research Park. QIB scientists work alongside clinicians and work closely with major national and international funding bodies and charities, collaborators and investors to ensure translation of our fundamental science to benefit patients, consumers and wider society.

The mission of Quadram Institute Bioscience is to improve human health by uncovering how food, gut physiology, microbes, and the microbiome influence diseases and healthy living. We use this knowledge to develop evidence-based strategies to maximise positive impacts of food on health, from early life to the extension of a healthy lifespan in old age and reduce the economic and societal costs of chronic diseases.

We can only achieve our mission if we create an environment in which everyone is valued, supported and has the opportunity to grow and contribute. Our values are central to our success and everything we do at Quadram Institute Bioscience:

### People-Centred Impact

We measure success by healthier lives and empowered communities, ensuring our research delivers tangible benefits.

### Inclusive Excellence

Diversity fuels discovery. We cultivate an environment where every voice is heard, every talent is nurtured, and respect is non-negotiable.

### Trusted Integrity

Rigour, transparency, and ethics underpin our work, earning the confidence of patients, partners, and the public.

### Collaborative Spirit

Breakthroughs happen together. We partner openly across disciplines, sectors, and borders to turn knowledge into real-world solutions.

### Agile Innovation

We stay curious and responsive, adapting rapidly to emerging challenges while stewarding resources responsibly for future generations.

Our interdisciplinary research maximises the unique cluster of academic excellence and clinical expertise at the Norwich Research Park, working alongside the food and pharmaceutical industries on our core science programmes.

This role requires an exceptional candidate with strategic vision who is passionate about helping lead the Institute to meet its vision and mission.

# Our forward-looking strategy



## Advancing Healthy Living by Design

Quadram Institute Bioscience (QIB) was established with a clear vision — to understand how food and microbes interact to promote health and prevent disease. Today, QIB is entering a new and exciting phase of growth. Our focus is now defined through our impact-driven framework, *Healthy Living by Design*, which aims to promote lifelong health by decoding the complex relationships between food, nutrition, microbes, microbiomes, and human biology — and translating this into practical, innovative solutions in partnership with clinicians, industry, and policy leaders.

QIB's research responds directly to the UK's most pressing challenges:

- 📌 Rising rates of obesity and diet-related disease
- 📌 Increasing pressures on food systems from climate change, antimicrobial resistance, and global supply-chain fragility

As a BBSRC-funded National Capability, QIB provides a unique, integrated environment where multidisciplinary teams can collaborate across scales of bioscience and health research. We combine exceptional facilities within a single institute, including:

- 📌 Clinical research facilities and biorepositories
- 📌 Microbiome and organoid model systems
- 📌 Sequencing, bioinformatics, and advanced imaging platforms
- 📌 Food and metabolite analysis capabilities
- 📌 A GMP-level faecal microbiota transplant facility
- 📌 High-containment and translational laboratories

This infrastructure enables QIB to move seamlessly from fundamental discovery to application, impact, and policy influence.

## Healthy Living by Design and the NI<sup>2</sup>SPs

QIB's next phase of scientific development will be delivered through new National and International Institute Strategic Programmes (NI<sup>2</sup>SPs). These interdisciplinary initiatives focus on three areas:

- 📌 Healthier Lives: Precision nutrition and microbiome interventions to prevent metabolic and age-related disease and support healthy growth and ageing.
- 📌 Safer Food: Predictive microbiology and interventions that protect food systems from pathogens, xenobiotics, spoilage, and antimicrobial resistance.
- 📌 Future Food: Predictive models and preclinical pipelines that ensure climate-resilient crops are safe, nutritious, and health-promoting.

Four organisational pillars — Frontier & Translational Science, Promotion of Health, Health Innovation, and People & Talent — underpin these programmes and connect discovery research with innovation, training, and impact.

## Building Capability and Leadership

QIB is investing strategically in its scientific capability and leadership. Current priorities include:

- 📌 Expanding national and international partnerships
- 📌 Developing platforms in AI, bioinformatics, and data-driven science
- 📌 Establishing advanced clinical capabilities such as cryopreserved microbiome and tissue biobanking
- 📌 Growing training and development programmes for future bioscience leaders

## A Distinctive Model for Impact

QIB's mission-driven structure brings together people, platforms, and partnerships in a dynamic environment designed to deliver translation and impact. In doing so QIB plays a central role in strengthening the UK's research infrastructure — improving health, ensuring food safety, and building a sustainable bioeconomy.

## About the role



The Chair of the Board of Trustees will need to be an experienced scientific leader, ensuring good governance practice in the board, promoting effective operation and ensuring Trustees work together for the good of the Institute.

The Chair will have expertise in the Science field and one or more of the following areas:

- Industry
- Innovation
- Business

### The Chair of the Board will have:

- The ability to establish a strong constructive relationship with the Institute's Director, Board of Trustees and other key employees and stakeholders across the Institute.
- Gravitas and the credibility to provide outstanding board leadership and governance experience in a publicly accountable institution and the ability to guide strategic decision making.
- Well-honed communication skills, enabling them to act as an ambassador for the Institute.
- The capacity to make a commitment of 15-20 days per annum to prepare for and attend meetings in Norwich.

### The Chair's responsibilities will include:

- Attending and chairing quarterly QIB Trustee Board meetings, with at least two meetings held in person in Norfolk, in the United Kingdom.
- Attending a further six to eight meetings at the same location per annum including an annual strategy event.
- Providing advice and guidance to the Institute's Executive Board on the effective and efficient management of the Institute. (Trustees have the same responsibilities as Company Directors for the probity of the Institute's business.)
- Contributing to the strategic direction of the Institute.
- Providing leadership to the Institute and its Board of Trustees.
- Acting as an ambassador for the Institute, promoting its interests and where appropriate representing the Institute at national events.
- Maintaining close relationships with key members of the UK Government, UKRI and other organisations as appropriate.
- Facilitating change and addressing any potential conflict with external stakeholders.
- Chairing meetings of the Board of Trustees effectively and efficiently, bringing impartiality and objectivity to the decision-making process.
- Member of the QI Partners Board of Trustees; chairing quarterly meetings.
- Ensuring that Trustees are fully engaged and that decisions are taken in the best, long-term interests of the Institute and that the Board takes collective ownership.
- Fostering, maintaining and ensuring that constructive relationships exist with and between the Trustees.
- Working closely with the Director to give direction to Board policymaking and to ensure that meetings are well planned, meaningful and reflect the responsibilities of Trustees.
- Take responsibility for ensuring the probity of the Institute's affairs and where necessary being answerable to the Charity Commission.

# Person Profile



We will be using the following person specification for selection purposes, to ensure that the individual appointed has the key attributes required.

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## Education and qualifications

- Holds a degree either in a scientific subject related to the work of QIB or relating to an area of specialism the Institute is currently seeking to add to the board.

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## Relevant experience

- Senior scientific and leadership role within a Research Organisation
- Senior level experience in the UK research funding environment
- Senior experience in knowledge transfer and translation, (commercial or public benefit)
- Significant recent experience of leading committees, at Board level, as a non-executive director or Trustee Director, in a complex multi- stakeholder environment.
- Significant recent experience of managing staff and resources (£5m +) in a Director level, or equivalent senior role.
- Experience of strategic leadership in a research or academic environment.
- Ideally have experience of effective interactions with government departments and senior representatives including other professional established networks
- Experience in a research or academic environment is desirable, but not essential.

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## Interpersonal and communication skills

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to express complex information in a concise and straightforward manner.
- Proven ability to build and maintain constructive professional relationships and able to liaise effectively with a wide range of stakeholders and audiences.
- Clear strategic thinking, with the ability to analyse complex information, demonstrate clear analytical intellect and guide rational decision making.
- Work collaboratively, building consensus in decision making.
- Ability to assess risk and promote risk awareness without being risk averse.

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## Additional requirements

- Experience of following the 'Charity Governance Code' and other good governance guidance.
- Passionate about the mission of Quadram Institute Bioscience.
- An understanding and experience of commercial research.
- Experience of working with funding agencies.
- Sufficient time to undertake the role of Trustee Director and to travel to meetings as required, (most meetings are held in Norwich, Norfolk, though occasional travel to London may also be required).
- Not disqualified from being a company director.

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- No conflict of interest with the business of the Institute (e.g. CEO of company tendering to supply the Institute; or with which the Institute has significant financial dealings; or with which/whom the Institute is in direct competition).
- Able to build open and effective relationships.
- Sympathy with the work of the Institute, recognising this requires work with animals.
- A good understanding of and a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

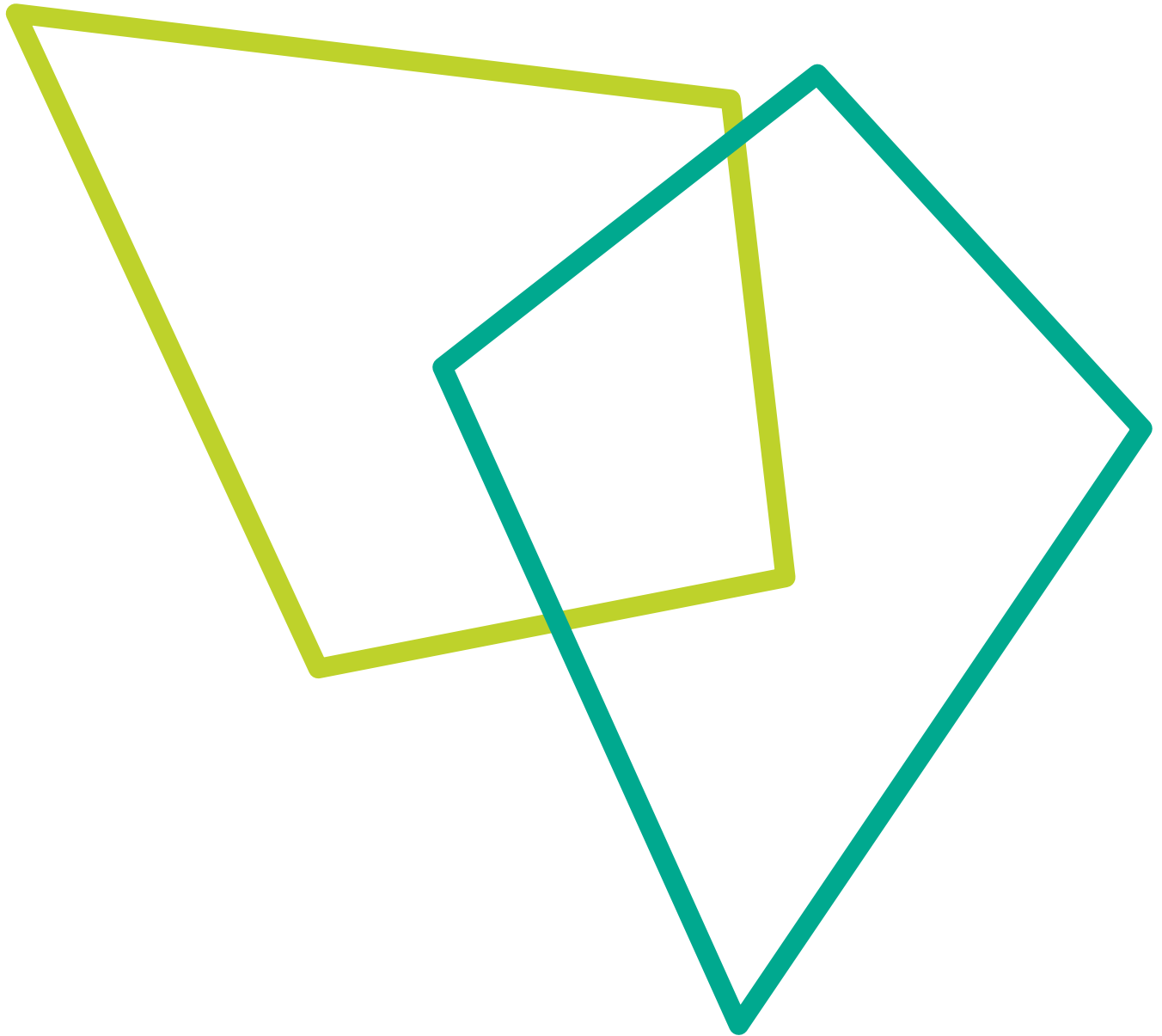
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## How to apply:

Interested applicants are invited to submit a CV and a cover letter stating what motivates them to apply for the [Chair of the Board of Trustees](#) position at QIB. Completed applications should be submitted via email to [QIB@mcleanpartnership.com](mailto:QIB@mcleanpartnership.com)

**Closing Date for applications is Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026**





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Completed applications should be submitted  
via email to [QIB@mcleanpartnership.com](mailto:QIB@mcleanpartnership.com)

For all other information or queries please email  
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