

### Mental Health and Productivity Pilot

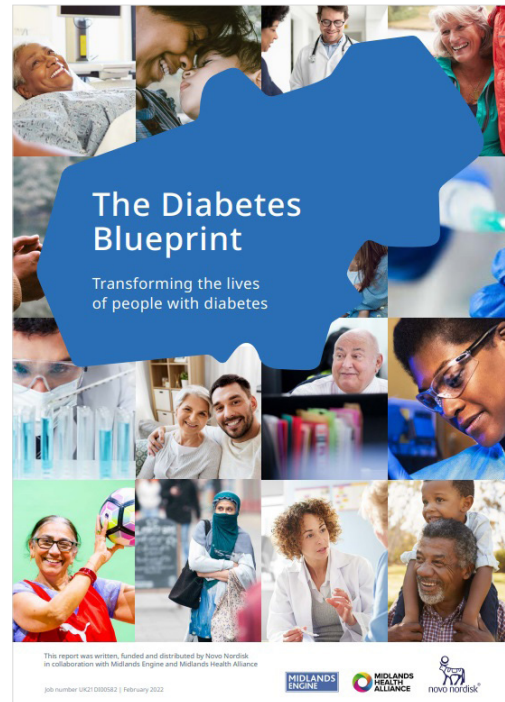
The Mental Health and Productivity Pilot has been awarded a continuation grant of £3m to extend its work to December 2023. Formal confirmation was made by Jonathan Marron, Director General for the Office of Health Improvements and Disparities, Department of Health and Social Care on the 22 June.

A workshop was held with staff from the Employers, Health and Inclusive Employment team at the Department for Work and Pensions. This event provided an opportunity to examine the current findings of the pilot and an interim update on the ongoing evaluation programme. Some initial findings are that firms are deprioritising wellbeing in the workplace. Budgets have been reduced and the number of workplace champions declined. Further research will investigate whether this is due to the perceived end of the pandemic or companies seeking to reduce expenditure in the current economy.



### Novo Nordisk Diabetes Blueprint

On 21 June, Midland Engine and our partners presented the Diabetes Blueprint to a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group for the Midlands Engine. The presentation was delivered by Dr Sam Seidu, Professor of Primary Care and practicing Leicester GP and Dan Beety, Senior Director of Corporate Affairs, Novo Nordisk. This follows a successful dissemination campaign that included [a comment piece](#) from type 2 diabetes sufferer and former MP Tom Watson.



### Director of OLS visit

Work is underway to host a visit by Rosalind Campion, the Director of the Office for Life Sciences (OLS). The OLS will be a critical partner in the pursuit of our strategic aims of increasing investment and research activity in the Midlands, so this meeting promises to be a useful and productive one. The event will be held at Charnwood Campus in Loughborough and will include a site visit at the [drug development company Almac](#). Representatives of businesses in the health and life sciences sector have been invited to take part in a roundtable session with Rosalind.

