



OXFORD INNOVATION FINANCE

HOME OF OION AND OXFORD INNOVATION EIS GROWTH FUND - CONNECTING COMPANIES & INVESTORS SINCE 1994

GUIDE – FOR INVESTORS

- ▶ www.oxfordinnovationfinance.co.uk
- ▶ finance@oxin.co.uk

OVERVIEW

Oxford Innovation Finance is the home of [OION \(Oxford Investment Opportunity Network\)](#) and the [Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund](#). We connect the UK's most ambitious science and technology startups with the investment they need to drive innovation, scale their businesses, and make a positive impact. For over 30 years, we've been at the heart of the UK's startup ecosystem - carefully matching high-potential companies with experienced investors who offer more than just capital. OION is one of the oldest and largest angel investment networks in the UK and is independently recognised as the most active (Beauhurst).

Through our regular Showcase events - held both in-person and online - we provide a platform for founders to pitch their businesses to a curated audience of angel investors. Most opportunities qualify for SEIS or EIS tax relief, helping to reduce risk and enhance returns for investors.

The [Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund](#) launched in 2021 and has to date completed more than 40 investments. The Fund now offers investors [quarterly closes](#) with each investor's investment deployed over the subsequent 12-18 months. Please note, investments in the Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund place your capital at risk. Please read the Information Memorandum in full and seek independent financial advice prior to making any investment decisions.

As a part of the SQW Group, Oxford Innovation Finance is well connected to the early-stage/start-up ecosystem and, through its sister companies, is able to offer connections to a wide range of support, beyond that of just access to finance. [Oxford Innovation Advice](#) offer business expertise and advice for leaders of ambitious businesses through a range business support & coaching programmes. And [Oxford Innovation Space](#) manage a nationwide network of more than 30 Innovation Centres which host and support over 1000 start-ups and SMEs.

Oxford Innovation Finance is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN 564525). Please note that under our OION angel network FCA authorisation, we act for entrepreneurs and companies seeking to raise finance. We do not act for our investor members and our investor members are not our clients, they are classified as venture capital contacts. Accordingly, we are not responsible for providing any protection to members or other investors that would be afforded to clients under the regulatory system and we are not responsible for providing advice in relation to any investment opportunities that we may draw to the attention of our members.

INVESTMENT MEETINGS / SHOWCASE EVENTS

- ▶ At least seven OION Showcase events are held every year either in-person or online, with each featuring up to ten companies pitching for investment. They are currently held in January, March, May, July, September, October and December. See www.oxfordinnovationfinance.co.uk/events for more detail.
- ▶ Oxford Innovation Finance's angel network, OION, reviews companies with Oxford University Innovation (OUI) and selects the companies to be invited to pitch at a Showcase event. The merger in 2020 of OION & OUI's angel network, OAN, provides both new and existing angels an opportunity to invest in impactful new tech companies, both from the Oxford Cluster and the wider UK, all under one roof.
- ▶ Investors interested in joining OION and receiving invitations to Showcase events should register their interest via the online [Investor Registration form](#).

Format of Investment Meetings

Investment Showcase	Overview	Follow-up
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Usually at least seven Showcase events each year, held either in-person or online 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Up to 10 company pitches at each Showcase ▪ 5 minute presentations ▪ Either Q&A or direct face2face networking with investors 	<p>Where companies that have presented at a Showcase have initial interest from investors, OION will support and arrange follow-up meetings where investors can conduct a more detailed review of the business.</p>

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES – INVESTORS SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES

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Oxford Innovation Finance's angel network, OION, offers Qualified Investors access to selected, high quality investment opportunities that offer the potential of high growth and reward. They are investors who invest capital into innovative companies in exchange for an equity share. Qualified Investors are High Net Worth, Sophisticated or Professional Investors.

Benefits of OION membership

- ▶ High quality, screened and selected proposals
- ▶ Regular meetings and networking opportunities
- ▶ Detailed summaries of investments
- ▶ Access to Oxford Innovation Finance's online portal for reviewing investment opportunities & investor collaboration
- ▶ Support for investment process*

*This does not replace the need for relevant professional advice. Each investor is responsible for conducting his/her own due diligence prior to making an investment and is responsible for reviewing and approving relevant documentation prior to committing to an investment. Investors are responsible for ensuring the appropriate tax treatment in respect of any investment that they might make, including the availability of SEIS/EIS relief. This may require advice from relevant legal/accountancy professionals.

ACTIVITIES & SERVICES – INVESTORS SEEKING OPPORTUNITIES

How we operate

Oxford Innovation Finance screens business proposals and carefully selects investment opportunities to present to its OION angel network. Company selection criteria includes:

- ▶ a valid and scalable business proposition
- ▶ a credible and committed founding/management team
- ▶ valuation of the company
- ▶ barrier to entry/niche in market
- ▶ knowledge of market
- ▶ awareness of competitors
- ▶ explored exit strategy

Additional Support for investors

- ▶ Established strong links with professional services providers, such as accountants, solicitors and banks.
- ▶ Help to select an appropriate professional to assist investors with the funding process and business development issues.
- ▶ Good contacts within the research and higher education institutions and can provide contact details where specialist technology advice is sought.

How to join OION as an investor member

- ▶ If you wish to join OION as an investor member, please register your interest via the online [Investor Registration](#) form. There is currently no fee for investor membership.
- ▶ Your application will be reviewed and, if successful, you will receive invitations to future OION events and a personal login for access to the Oxford Innovation Finance online portal (accessed via www.oxfordinnovationfinance.co.uk).
- ▶ The Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 requires investors to be self-certified as Sophisticated Investors or High Net Worth Individuals, more details can be found in the resources section [here](#).
- ▶ If you wish to confidentially speak to one of the Oxford Innovation Finance team in the first instance, please [contact us](#) to arrange a time to chat.

OXFORD INNOVATION EIS GROWTH FUND

The Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund offers investors an opportunity to invest in the next generation of high-growth UK science and technology companies, underpinned by the extensive experience of our OION angel network – the UK's most active angel network.

Following a well-defined selection process, our Fund provides each investor with a diversified portfolio of 6-12 companies with the potential to achieve significant tax-free capital gains. The Fund provides early-stage companies with the opportunity of securing co-investment, alongside that of OION angel members.

Launched in 2021, the Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund has to date completed more than 40 investments. It is now open for investment all year offering investors quarterly closes, with each investor's investment deployed over the subsequent 12-18 months.

Investors interested in investing in the Fund should visit the [Fund webpage](#) for more information. Please note, investments in the Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund place your capital at risk. Please read the Information Memorandum in full and seek independent financial advice prior to making any investment decisions.

Companies interested in receiving investment from the Oxford Innovation EIS Growth Fund should follow the standard OION application and [Showcase pitching process](#). This provides companies with the opportunity of securing co-investment from OION angel members and the Fund.

TEAM



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SPONSORS

Oxford Innovation Finance's angel network, OION, is pleased to acknowledge the support of its sponsors. This support allows OION client companies and investors access to professional advice that is geared to meet the growth needs of innovative businesses. More information can be found on our website [sponsors page](#).

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