Computing Insight UK 2026

Grand Challenges for the Next Decade: Software, People, Research and Economic Growth





CIUK DAY ZERO - Wednesday 2 December 2026

TIME	PRE-CIUK ACTIVITIES These activities will take place in the CIUK Breakout Room and the meeting rooms upstairs			
From 08:00	**CIUK 2026 EXHIBITION SET-UP (Exchange Hall)**			
09:30 - 10:00				
10:00 - 10:30	CoSeC Computational Science Centre for Research Communities **Annual Conference 2026** Wednesday 2 December @ CIUK 2026 **10:00 - 17:00** **(CIUK Breakout Room)** **Exchange Rooms 8 - 10** **Upstairs at Manchester Central** **Registration from 09:30** **www.scd.stfc.ac.uk/CoSeC**			
10:30 - 11:00		**Sustainable Business Models for HPC** **Organiser: Sudhir Rama Murthy (Imperial College London)** 10:30 - 12:30 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 1 and 2 Upstairs at Manchester Central		
11:00 - 11:30				
11:30 - 12:00				
12:00 - 12:30				
12:30 - 13:00				
13:00 - 13:30		**Practical Sustainability for Research Computing Facilities: An Action Plan Workshop** **Organiser: Alex Owen (Queen Mary University London)** 13:00 - 15:00 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 1 and 2 Upstairs at Manchester Central	**Technical / SysAdmin Meet Up 2026** ***In association with HPC-SIG and ACIT Hub*** **13:00 - 17:00** **Barbirolli Room** **Bridgewater Hall** **Organiser: Simon Atack**	LUG UK **Lustre User Group 2026** **14:00 - 17:00** **The Midland Hotel** **www.lustrefilesystem.com**
13:30 - 14:00				
14:00 - 14:30				
14:30 - 15:00				
15:00 - 15:30				
15:30 - 16:00		**Generative AI and dRTP Skills - Exploring the Landscape of Shifting Skills** **Organiser: Weronika Fillinger (University of Edinburgh)** 15:30 - 17:30 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 1 and 2 Upstairs at Manchester Central		
16:00 - 16:30				
16:30 - 17:00				
17:00 - 17:30				
17:30 - late	**CIUK 2026 Day Zero Networking Event - The Gas Works Brew Bar, 5 Jack Rosenthal St, Manchester M15 4RA** ***(Open to all registered CIUK attendees and exhibitors - CIUK lanyard and badge required for entry)***			
Until 20:00	**CIUK 2026 EXHIBITION SET-UP (Exchange Hall)**			

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Main Programme Session Themes

Session 1: Econmic Growth
CHAIR:

Session 2: Research? Security

Session 3: People
CHAIR:

CIUK DAY ONE - Thursday 3 December 2026

TIME	MAIN PROGRAMME	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	CIUK CLUSTER CHALLENGE
From 08:30	**REGISTRATION OPEN (Exchange Foyer) CIUK 2026 EXHIBITION OPEN (Exchange Hall)**		
09:15 - 09:30	*Welcome and Introduction* **Peter Oliver (Director, Scientific Computing, STFC)**		
09:30 - 10:00	**Crispin Keable (BULL)** Can the UK be a scientific superpower without world-class supercomputing?	**Research Clouds** **Organiser: Deniza Chekrygina (UKRI-STFC)** 09:30 - 11:00 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	
10:00 - 10:30	**Ricky Patel (Fsas Technologies)** Tackling Posture Optimisation with Hybrid Quantum Computing		 **CIUK 2026 Student Cluster Challenge Treasure Hunt (Exchange Hall)**
10:30 - 11:00	**Lamar Moore (Oxford Quantum Circuits)** Building the Fault-Tolerant Future: Scaling Quantum Computing for Commercial and National Impact		
11:00 - 11:30	**REFRESHMENTS**		
11:30 - 12:00	**Duncan Leggat (UCL)** Securing our sensitive data: The demand for and challenges of Confidential Computing on High Performance Computing	**What can Federation do for me? The NFCS Roadmap** **Organiser: Kieran Leach (University of Edinburgh)** 11:30 - 13:00 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	
12:00 - 12:30	**Matt Craddock (The Alan Turing Institute)** AIRR-BRIDGE: bringing sensitive AI research to national HPC infrastructure		
12:30 - 13:00	**Paul Walker (Durham University / DiRAC)** Watching Over Their Shoulder: Semantic Anomaly Detection on an HPC Fleet with Local LLM Inference		
13:00 - 14:00	**LUNCH**		
14:00 - 14:30	**A Network + Update Session** **Nick Brown (EPCC)** The UK Digital Research Infrastructure programme: progress, highlights and how to get involved **Jonathan Hays (QMUL)** DRI's Own Grand Challenge: The NFCS Roadmap for a Federation of UK Digital Research Infrastructure **Jonathan Cooper (UCL ARCC)** Common challenges faced by Research Technical Professional groups in the UK, and current solutions to support their contributions to research and career pathways: an interview study **Saranjeet Kaur Bhogal (Imperial College London)** The work between the work: Knowledge exchange within the dRTP community	**What is the future of Fortran-based science and engineering?** **Organiser: Austen Rainer (Queen's University Belfast)** 14:00 - 15:30 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	 **CIUK 2026 Student Cluster Challenge (Exchange Hall)** alcesflight
14:30 - 15:00			
15:00 - 15:30			
15:30 - 16:15	**REFRESHMENTS**		
16:15 - 17:00	**Martyn Guest (Cardiff University)** **The Performance of GPU-enabled Molecular Dynamics (MD) Community Codes**		
17:00 - 18:00	**CIUK 2026 Keynote Presentation** **Rob Akers (The United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA))** **From DAWN to SUNRISE: Supercomputing the Impossible Machine**		
18:30 - 23:00	**CIUK 2026 Networking Event - Manahatta, 188-192 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3ND** **(Open to all registered CIUK attendees and exhibitors - CIUK lanyard and badge required for entry)**		

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Main Programme Session Themes

Session 4: Research CHAIR:
Session 5: Software CHAIR:
Session 6: Awards

CIUK DAY TWO - Friday 4 December 2026

TIME	MAIN PROGRAMME	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	CIUK CLUSTER CHALLENGE
From 08:30	**REGISTRATION OPEN (Exchange Foyer)** **CIUK 2026 EXHIBITION OPEN (Exchange Hall)**	WHPC WOMEN IN HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING 08:30 - 10:30 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	
09:30 - 10:00	**TBC**		
10:00 - 10:30	**Ali Ansari - (University of East Anglia)** Silent Failures in LLM-Generated CUDA Kernels: When Repair Hides the Bug		 **CIUK 2026 Student Cluster Challenge (Exchange Hall)** OCF BRILLIANCE. TOGETHER.
10:30 - 11:00	**Fawada Qaiser - (University of Durham)** From Ticket to Token: Developing an AI Assistant for COSMA User Support		
11:00 - 11:30	**REFRESHMENTS**		
11:30 - 12:00	**Khalid Lawal (UK Atomic Energy Authority)** Maximising the value of Fusion Research (Meta) Data Value using JSON Scheme	**EuroHPC: how UK researchers get access, and what makes a strong proposal** **Organiser: Jonathan Bermudez (UKRI)** 11:30 - 13:30 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	
12:00 - 12:30	**Gokmen Kilic (Durham University)** Interactive HPC for DiRAC Training Academy using Kubernetes and LTI 1.3		
12:30 - 13:00	**Emma Barnes (University of York)** What The University of York has learned from moving its HPC services to Sweden		
13:00 - 14:15	**LUNCH**		
14:15	**CIUK 2026 Exhibition Closes**		
14:15 - 14:30	**Awards Presentation** **The CIUK 2026 Student Cluster Challenge and CIUK 2026 Poster Competition**	**UK Scientific Ceph Workshop** **Organiser: Rob Appleyard (UKRI-STFC)** 14:00 - 16:00 (CIUK Breakout Room) Exchange Rooms 8 - 10 Upstairs at Manchester Central	
14:30 - 15:00	**The Jacky Pallas Memorial Presentation** **TBC (TBC)** **Title TBC**		
15:00 - 15:30	**Ali Taqi (Sultan Qaboos University)** When Science Defines Parallelism: A Case Study in User-Configurable HPC Orchestration for Radio Astronomy		
15:30 - 16:00	**Sylvain Laizet (Imperial College London)** Sustainable High Performance Computing in the UK: A Discussion on Public Investment, Accountability, and the Path to Net Zero		
16:00	**CIUK 2026 CLOSES - See you in 2027!!!**		