

Supplementary Information:

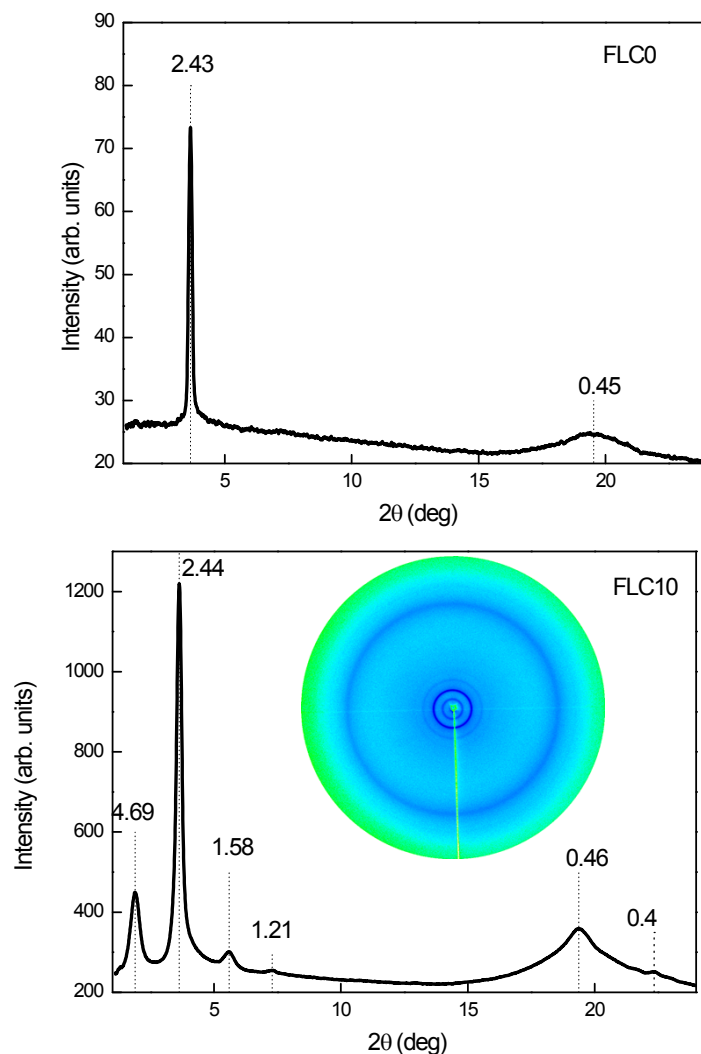


Figure SI-1: XRD profiles of FLC0 and FLC10 mixtures in the SmC\* phase (the numbers against each peak indicates the associated Bragg spacing in nm). For FLC10 the low angle peaks (except the strongest one arising from the smectic layer thickness) are typical of the lamellar structure of HSA. Importantly, the small peak at 0.4 nm is characteristic of the hexagonal morphology of the HSA gel, a feature that has been argued<sup>1</sup> to be an indication of the hydrogen bonding created by the secondary hydroxyl groups of the HSA molecules.

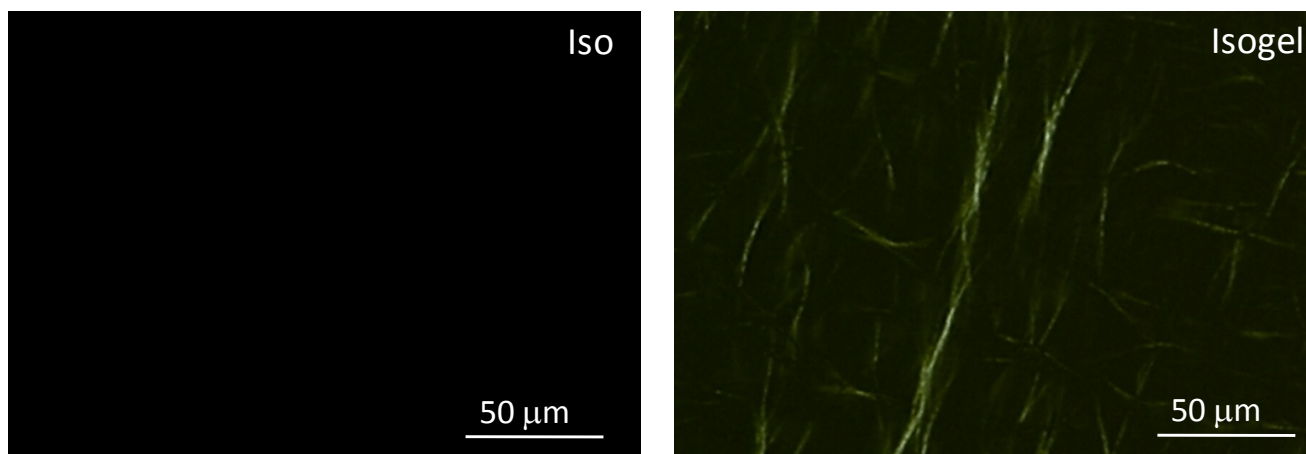


Figure SI-2: The field of view between crossed polarisers observed under a POM in the isotropic (Iso) and isotropic gel (Isogel) states of FLC10 sample. The Isogel state is marked by the appearance of strands of low birefringence indicating the presence of gel network.

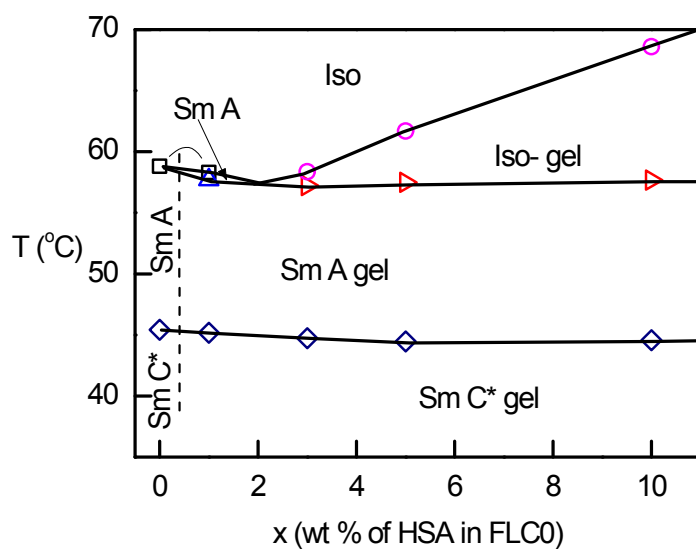


Figure SI-3: Temperature (T) - concentration (x) phase diagram depicting various phases and phase transition temperatures for the binary system of the FLC host mixture and the organogelator HSA.

#### References

1. S. Abraham, Y. Lan, R. S. H. Lam, D. A. S. Grahame, J. Jae Hee Kim, R. G. Weiss and M. A. Rogers, *Langmuir*, 2012, **28**, 4955.