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INNOVATE IN MANCHESTER

For over 200 years Greater Manchester has been the driving force behind new global frontiers in the field of innovation; social and cultural, as well as scientific and technological.

Our region played a pivotal role in the first three industrial revolutions, making pioneering breakthroughs and building new industries to harness the power of steam and water, electricity, and information technology.

Today, as the world finds itself in the foothills of the fourth industrial revolution, Greater Manchester continues to innovate. With the mass adoption of digital technologies transforming every industry, our city region is building on its strong foundations to forge a sustainable future.

As a result, more people than ever are choosing Greater Manchester as the place to stay or move to, and the city region has been selected by the Government to receive funding as one of three Innovation Accelerator clusters across the UK.

THE INNOVATION ACCELERATOR

The Innovation Accelerator is a unique opportunity for businesses to work with local and national government and innovation agencies to co-design, deploy, and evaluate new approaches to place-based innovation in order to;

- Enhance existing local and national innovation programmes
- Fill gaps in our innovation ecosystem to maximise commercial success
- Help companies located in Greater Manchester design strong proposals for competitive national funding opportunities
- Accelerate new products to market

Greater Manchester's share of the Innovation Accelerator shows how the UK Government sees the city region as one of the most innovative in the UK with the most opportunity for global companies to locate here, to develop, demonstrate and deploy cutting edge products or services that will go on to change the world.

INNOVATION IN ACTION

The following 10 projects will receive a share of the Innovation funding, by focussing on Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing, AI, Data & Advanced Computing and Diagnostics & Genomics – all key strengths of Greater Manchester.

MANCHESTER TURING INNOVATION CATALYST (MTIC) – LED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER (AI)

Greater Manchester is home to a £5bn digital economy and recognised as a top UK technology city. The Turing Innovation Catalyst is an ambitious project focused on catalysing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) ecosystem within the city region. The TIC harnesses the growth opportunities that AI and other deep technologies offer for the region's businesses, citizens, research institutions, and economy. Locating in Greater Manchester offers opportunities to work with TIC and the wider ecosystem, and to capitalise on the commercial opportunities in the UK's fastest growing tech location.

MEDIACITY IMMERSIVE TECHNOLOGIES INNOVATION HUB, THE LANDING AT MEDIA CITY UK LIMITED (CREATIVE)

Located in Media City, the hub strengthens Greater Manchester's digital and creative economy by supporting businesses with designing, developing, and testing new solutions in the metaverse. Using AI and Data and Advanced Computing, this multi-agency ecosystem is underpinned by continuous investment in people via the Salford Innovation Triangle partnership, Salford City Council, HOST, the University of Salford, Peel L&P, Landsec, dock10, and other private sector partners.

CENTRE FOR DIGITAL INNOVATION (CDI), MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY (NET ZERO)

The CDI operates four technology strands: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Cyber, Industrial Digitalisation (ID) and Immersive Technology (IT) with focus on Greater Manchester's advanced manufacturing and digital and creative sectors. Responding to the need for a diverse and skilled digital talent pool, the centre's community outreach projects, cutting-edge technical expertise, and 24/7 online skills platform removes barriers to skills development in underrepresented areas and communities, enabling businesses to thrive within the innovation ecosystem.

ENERGY ACCELERATOR FOR NON-DOMESTIC BUILDINGS, THE GROWTH COMPANY (NET ZERO)

Supporting the development, testing, and deployment of energy efficiency, low carbon heat, and renewable energy solutions in Greater Manchester, this project facilitates the innovation process for end users and start-ups by implementing and funding up to 20 real-world demonstrator projects. Matching innovators with end-users, this project offers businesses access to a wide-ranging partner support network providing a comprehensive innovator journey from innovation to commercialisation.

THE DEVELOPMENT AND VALIDATION OF TECHNOLOGY FOR TIME CRITICAL GENOMIC TESTING (DEVOTE) PROGRAMME, THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER (HEALTH)

Improving the health of the population, DEVOTE supports time critical genomic testing technologies through a) a rapid genetic bedside test to guide treatment for patients after stroke b) using new and emerging biomaterials to detect genetic changes to guide antibiotic therapy, and c) a pharmacogenetic testing panel with a solution to ensure results are available to clinicians at the point of need. DEVOTE will continue to engage with industry partners beyond the lifespan of the Innovation Accelerator over the next decade.

COLLABORATE WITH US

MIDAS is Greater Manchester's inward investment agency. Working across the city-region's frontier sectors for over 20 years, it offers a free and confidential package of advice and assistance for potential investors and location consultants. MIDAS services are available to companies of all sizes that wish to relocate to or expand within Manchester.

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CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ADVANCED MATERIALS & SUSTAINABILITY (CEAMS), ROCHDALE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ADVANCED MATERIALS)

CEAMS builds on world-class advanced materials research in Greater Manchester to provide sustainable materials for manufacturing supply chains. The centre will be a nationally significant 115,000 sq. ft facility located at Greater Manchester's Gateway North site within Atom Valley. A dedicated commercial space for scale-up firms wishing to co-locate with the Centre's translational R&D expertise, it will include workshop space for R&D, offices and flexible meeting spaces for teaching and exhibitions.

FUTURE HOMES, UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD (NET ZERO)

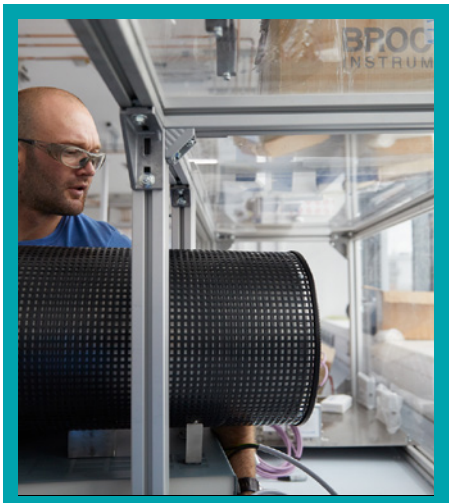
Bringing together innovators, researchers, and some of the UK's leading housebuilders to develop solutions for reducing energy use, Future Homes brings together all elements of the construction supply chain to shape new homes and deliver retrofit solutions to existing homes. Through Energy House Labs at the University of Salford, The University of Manchester Tyndall Centre, and industry partners Barratt and Bellway, Saint Gobain, RSK, Red and QBot, the project is the foundation for an internationally recognised network leading on understanding materials and the energy performance of buildings.

GM ADVANCED DIAGNOSTICS ACCELERATOR, HEALTH INNOVATION MANCHESTER/ MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST (HEALTH)

Narrowing the gap between acquired knowledge of disease mechanisms by universities or businesses and the health benefits to the wider population, this accelerator simultaneously tackles both health and wealth through a series of inclusive, innovation-led growth projects. Ideal for businesses wishing to bridge research data and clinical implementation – particularly around liver, heart, and lung disease - to reimagine citizen pathways with NHS stakeholders and residents.

GREATER MANCHESTER ELECTRO-CHEMICAL HYDROGEN CLUSTER, MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY (NET ZERO)

Building upon Greater Manchester's existing strengths within Manchester Metropolitan University's Fuel Cell innovation Centre, the University of Manchester, the Henry Royce Institute, and the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), this cluster relates to the materials and measurement challenges for fuel cells, electrolysers, and associated supply chains with focus on accelerating the development and adoption of clean, efficient electrochemical (green) hydrogen technologies to enable a cost-competitive economy.



AR EDTECH FOR HYDROGEN SKILLS, BLAIR PROJECT LTD (NET ZERO)

The AR Edtech for Hydrogen project responds to the pressing need for agile, fast paced, and cutting-edge net zero skills training to deliver an efficient workforce. Its uSkill360 platform uses simulation-based AR, VR, AI, and gamification to deliver immersive, hands-on industry relevant training which cut costs and reduces workplace absence for training. Trailblazed by the Blair Project - which provides STEM education and training to underrepresented groups - partners include immersive technology specialists Fuzzy Logic Studio, the Hydrogen Skills Alliance, and Carlton Power.