



Innovation Directory

Introduction

Welcome to the Innovation Directory.

We know that the funding, connections, networks and resources we provide to support business innovation are only part of the landscape. In the innovation journey from initial idea to market offering there are many steps - and many other organisations and partners who can help along the way.

This listing provides a selection of additional contacts and organisations that may also help you on this journey - from research councils for links to cutting-edge research, to patent advice from the Intellectual Property Office, to associations representing investors and venture capitalists.

For example, the [Association for University Research and Industry Links \(AURIL\)](#) is the professional association representing practitioners involved in knowledge creation, development and exchange in the UK and Ireland, who work to ensure that new ideas, technologies and innovations flow from their institution into the market place.

For each organisation featured, the Innovation Directory pages give more information about what they do and how you can get in touch with them.

If you are looking to take part in the EU's innovation funding opportunities, visit our new [Horizon 2020 web pages](#).

Resources on gov.uk

Finance and support for your business

Find government-backed support and finance for business, including:

- grants
- finance and loans
- business support eg mentoring, consultancy
- funding for small and medium-sized businesses and start-ups

Customise your search by location, size and activity.

[Get started](#)

The gov.uk portal lists a wide range of public sector organisations and schemes which could help with [finance and support for your business](#). It allows you to filter for resources appropriate to your region and company size.

Please note that the Innovation Directory information is dependent on organisations Innovate UK and may be subject to change.

Innovation Directory: A-C

Association for University Research and Industry Links (AURIL)

AURIL is the professional association representing practitioners involved in the processes of knowledge creation, development and exchange in the UK and Ireland, who work to ensure that new ideas, technologies and innovations flow from their institution into the market place.

The Association has strong working relations with the [Confederation of British Industry](#), [Universities UK](#), the [UKIPO](#), the [Department of Business, Innovation and Skills \(BIS\)](#), [HM Treasury](#) and [Higher Education Funding Councils](#), in partnership with whom it has produced many publications.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.auril.org.uk
- **Phone:** 0141 548 4765
- **Email:** auril@strath.ac.uk
- **Address:** Association for University Research and Industry Links, c/o University of Strathclyde, 50 George Street, Glasgow G1 1QE

British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (BVCA)

More than 500 firms make up the BVCA members and this number continues to grow as the knowledge, news and counsel the BVCA is able to offer its membership is recognised as increasingly invaluable and essential.

The BVCA Membership comprises over 230 private equity, midmarket and venture capital firms with an accumulated total of over £200bn funds under management; as well as nearly 300 professional advisory firms, including legal, accounting, regulatory and tax advisers, corporate financiers, due diligence professionals, environmental advisers, transaction services providers, and placement agents.

Additional members include international investors and funds-of-funds, secondary purchasers, university teams and academics and fellow national private equity and venture capital associations globally.

Many of the businesses that are supported by the Technology Strategy Board will be considering how to raise finance to ensure that they have sufficient capital to be able to deliver the successful commercialisation of an innovative project. For smaller, early stage businesses, investment by a venture capitalist may be ideal - often bringing a combination of capital and expertise to help to achieve the growth plans of the founders.

The BVCA can provide valuable resources to help at this stage - including information about what venture capital investors look for and standard industry documents.

The members of the BVCA represent a very wide range of areas of investment, covering seed investment, start-up funding, expansion capital, replacement capital and buyouts. These investment areas are often highly specialised and the requirements of venture capitalists when considering potential opportunities may be very specific - by amount of investment, by stage of development of the business or by sector. It is very important for businesses to consider carefully whether a particular source of capital is suitable and to seek expert advice before entering into any commitment.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.bvca.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0207 420 1800
- **Email:** bvca@bvca.co.uk
- **Address:** The British Private Equity & Venture Capital Association (BVCA), 1st Floor North, Brettenham House, Lancaster Place, London WC2E 7EN

British Standards Institute (BSI)

BSI is the business standards company that helps organizations all over the world make excellence a habit. It shows businesses how to improve performance, reduce risk and achieve sustainable growth. Its clients range from high profile brands to small, local companies in 150 countries worldwide.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** <http://www.bsigroup.co.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0208 996 9000
- **Email:** cservices@bsigroup.com
- **Address:** 389 Chiswick High Road, London, W4 4AL

Business Gateway

Business Gateway is a government-funded body that provides advice, information and support to businesses across Scotland. Business Gateway offers a range of professional resources, support and tools to help all businesses, whether a start up or established company, learn new skills, create new opportunities and develop strategies to take your business forward.

Whatever stage your business is at; Business Gateway offers a range of professional resources and support to help. These include:

a comprehensive website with information and case studies to help businesses grow and develop

business information - a dedicated team providing information and support on all aspects of starting or growing a business

workshops and events - free workshops and events held throughout Scotland

for those businesses with real growth potential - tailored advice to suit specific business needs through a network of experienced business advisers.

Business Gateway services are delivered by Local Authorities, [Scottish Enterprise](#), [Highlands and Islands Enterprise](#) and the [Scottish Government](#) with the support of associated partner organisations.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.bgateway.com
- **Phone:** 0845 609 6611

Centre for Defence Enterprise (CDE)

CDE is the first point of contact for anyone with a disruptive technology, new process or innovation that has a potential defence application. CDE funds research into novel high-risk, high-potential-benefit innovations sourced from the broadest possible range of science and technology providers, including academia and small companies, to enable development of cost-effective capability advantage for UK Armed Forces. CDE is the entry point for new science and technology providers to defence, bringing together innovation and investment for the defence and security markets. CDE aims to enhance innovation in defence and security research and development by:

- engaging the broadest possible audience of science and technology providers
- proving innovative ideas by funding research proposals
- promoting successful outputs across MOD and the defence industry.
- CDE welcomes innovative proposals via two different routes:
- open call - an enduring call for any innovative research ideas that have a potential defence and security application
- themed call - a specific call for innovative research ideas to meet particular challenges.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.science.mod.uk
- **Phone:** 01235 438445
- **Email:** science-enterprise@mod.uk
- **Address:** Centre for Defence Enterprise, Start Electron, Fermi Avenue, Harwell Science & Innovation Campus, Harwell, Oxfordshire OX11 0QR

Innovation Directory: D-F

Design Council

The Design Council enables people to use design in practical ways to transform business, communities and the environment for the better. Good design can deliver growth, sustainability, innovation and stronger communities. The organisation supports innovation and business growth through its Design Leadership Programme and Challenges team.

The [Design Leadership Programme](#) helps businesses realise the power of design to drive long-term growth and aims to show leaders how design can bring different parts of their organisation together to deliver great results. And we make sure every pound invested in design pays back even more in economic growth. The Challenges team runs competitions that use design to address societal issues. The competitions look at how design can create practical solutions to complex problems, deliver high quality, innovative solutions and stimulate opportunities for enterprise.

Over the past five years, the Design Council has tackled issues of health and well-being, crime and security, and environmental sustainability. The result is a portfolio of products and services that are improving people's lives and creating business opportunities for the UK.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.designcouncil.org.uk
- **Phone:** 0207 420 5200
- **Email:** info@designcouncil.org.uk
- **Address:** Design Council, Angel Building, 407 St John Street, London, EC1V 4AB

Enterprise European Network (EEN)

The EEN works with the Technology Strategy Board in the UK to offer advice about EU R&D and import/export activity to SMEs and help them make the most of the European marketplace. Working through local SMEs, the EEN can help your business to:

- develop your business in new markets
- source or license new technologies
- access EU finance and funding.

The EEC holds an extensive database of close to 600 member organisations, partners and potential partners around Europe that could be beneficial for UK SMEs to work with. These include chambers of commerce and industry, technology centres, universities and development agencies.

In particular, the EEC operates across the globe and seeks to promote competitiveness and innovation from a local to worldwide level.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** <http://portal.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/about/branches/UK/>
- **Web:** www.enterprise-europe.net

Funding Councils

The funding councils include: HEFCE, HEFCW (includes Go Wales), SFC (includes Interface), HE in NI (includes Apprenticeships NI). The UK's Higher Education Funding Councils distribute public funds for teaching and research to universities and colleges in England, Wales and Scotland.

Higher Education in Northern Ireland is funded through the Department for Employment and Learning. Some of this funding is used to encourage Knowledge Exchange - interaction between academics and other organisations - businesses, the public and the third sectors.

This interaction is the flow of knowledge and information, be it through informal advice, consultancy, applied research projects or long term strategic partnerships.

Information on activities that specifically encourage business-research base interaction is provided below.

Higher Education Funding Council England (HEFCE)

General information on support for knowledge exchange and skills:<http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatwedo/kes/>

The workforce development programme helps universities and colleges adapt to the skills and training needs of employers: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatwedo/kes/ee/>

The Catalyst fund supports knowledge exchange with a particular focus on universities and colleges working in partnership: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatwedo/invest/funds/cf/>

Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW)

Information on working with business and communities:http://www.hefcw.ac.uk/policy_areas/business_and_communities/business_communities.aspx

Go Wales offers a variety of services to help businesses recruit and retain graduate staff. Your business could benefit from offering work experience to a student or graduate, take advantage of the cash support for staff training, recruit a student or graduate through a work placement or advertise a vacancy free of charge.

Scottish Further and Higher Education Funding Council (SFC)

For the Business section: <http://www.sfc.ac.uk/business/business.aspx>

Interface helps businesses access the specialist expertise, knowledge and facilities in Scotland's universities and research institutions. It is a free and impartial service to give the best possible solution for your business: <http://www.interface-online.org.uk/>

Colleges Mean Business helps businesses access specialist help from Scotland's Colleges:<http://scotlandscollegesmeanbusiness.com/>

Higher Education in Northern Ireland (Department of Employment and Learning) Information on programmes relevant to business (employers): <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/funding-support.htm>

ApprenticeshipsNI is a Northern Ireland work-based programme designed around the needs of employers. It offers recognised training and qualifications to new and existing employees aged 16 and over, across a wide range of apprenticeships. Funding is available:<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/apprentices>

Innovation Directory: G-I

GrowthAccelerator

GrowthAccelerator is a government backed but private sector-delivered programme that aims to provide small and medium businesses across England with the know-how and ability to achieve rapid and sustainable growth.

The programme helps business leaders who are passionate about growing their business and have the intent to double their business in three years achieve their ambitions. It aims to do that by matching businesses with proven business experts to define a tailored growth plan that will realise controlled and accelerated growth. This programme helps you to open doors to external funding, seize new business opportunities, boost your innovation and leadership and connect you to a community of organisations and fast growing businesses that will add real value.

The support available through GrowthAccelerator includes:

- commercialising Innovation: working with you to spot the opportunities to create new, improved products and services to secure your competitive edge
- business development: changing behaviours and improving business performance by transferring skills and knowledge into your business; and through helping you to create and implement a high growth strategy to keep you focussed on your goals
- access to finance: working alongside you to improve your investment readiness and become more attractive to new sources of finance
- leadership skills: working with business owners and leaders refining skills and competencies in order for them to direct and develop their own teams more effectively.

Please note that GrowthAccelerator is only available for SMEs who are based in England, and that costs will apply for some services. Please see the Growth Accelerator website for further details.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.growthaccelerator.com
- **Phone:** 0844 463 2995
- **Email:** enquiries@growthaccelerator.com

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE)

HIE is a Scottish Government body which offers a wide range of programmes and initiatives to encourage new enterprise creation, support high growth businesses and sectors and to facilitate knowledge transfer, research and development and business innovation.

HIE aims to enable businesses and social enterprises who are based in the Highlands and Islands to shape and realise their growth aspirations.

Services available include:

- business and innovation information and advice
- funding options and opportunities
- interface - linking businesses with academic research
- research and development funding scheme
- Business Innovation Grants - supporting links between businesses and academic institutions
- Framework Programme (FP7) - grants to encourage and support pan-Europe business collaborations.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.hie.co.uk
- **Phone:** 01463 234171
- **Email:** info@hient.co.uk
- **Address:** Cowan House, Inverness Business and Retail Park, Inverness

Invest NI

Invest NI offers the Northern Ireland business community a single point of contact for business support and expert advice. It supports a wide range of enterprises, from new start-ups through to established businesses, and especially those in the manufacturing and tradeable services sectors.

Invest NI offers a number of programmes aimed at supporting business research and development (R&D); increasing the commercialisation of science and ideas; and actively promoting innovation, invention and knowledge exchange. In addition to providing information and access to the full range of Technology Strategy Board programmes, Invest NI also delivers a number of other programmes for business, including innovation advice, funding and support.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.investni.com
- **Web:** <http://www.boostingbusinessni.com>
- **Phone:** 0800 181 4422

Intellectual Property Office (IPO)

The Intellectual Property Office helps businesses, innovators and entrepreneurs understand how intellectual property can create value from their ideas, turning inspiration into sustainable business success. In addition to granting patents and registering trademarks, the IPO enables businesses to use, manage, and enforce their IP to achieve their fullest potential.

A strong enterprise culture is central to creating a dynamic economy and with over 160 years experience and expertise, the IPO promotes innovation and growth by offering a vibrant programme of activities and informed advice and support to UK business, including:

Events – A wide portfolio of workshops and seminars, delivered across the UK.

IP Masterclass – A specialist course focusing on all aspects of IP for those who want to develop their knowledge and skills, developed in partnership with Coventry University and the British Library.

IP Healthcheck is a free online tool designed to assist businesses in identifying, assessing, protecting and exploiting the intellectual assets they own. By answering a series of simple questions it generates a report containing recommendations and guidance on how they can make the most of their IP.

IP Insight e-newsletter – A free monthly e-newsletter offering the latest IP news, views and stories plus details of events and exhibitions.

'IP for Small Business' app – An app for android and iOS which provides users with an overview of IP and IP in business, developed in partnership with Swansea University and IP Wales.

*Intellectual Property Office is an operating name of the Patent Office..

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.ipo.gov.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0300 300 2000
- **Email:** information@ipo.gov.uk
- **Address:** Intellectual Property Office, Concept House, Cardiff Road, Newport, South Wales, NP10 8QQ

Innovation Directory: J-L

LGC Limited

LGC is an international leader in advanced analytical and advisory services, measurement standards, reference materials and proficiency testing marketplaces. Our products and services enable our customers to demonstrate conformity to international statutory and regulatory standards, and provide a sound basis for scientific and commercial decisions.

Innovation underpins our lead role as the UK's designated National Measurement Institute (NMI) for chemical and bioanalytical measurement, as well as our Government Chemist (GC) function. The unique GC function provides expert opinion, based on independent chemical and bioanalytical measurement, to help avoid or resolve disputes pertaining to food and agriculture. The GC also provides advice to Government and the wider analytical community on the analytical chemistry implications for matters relating to policy, standards and regulations.

Our international reach gives us access to the latest technologies and unrivalled knowledge and expertise in a wide range of bioanalytical and chemical applications for life and food sciences, forensics, standards, and measurement research and development.

Measurement Research and Services

LGC's Science and Technology Division focuses on measurement research and services that bridge the gap between technological invention and analytical application. Our primary measurement research expertise lies in the application of advanced tandem mass spectrometry, separation science, and molecular and cell biology to a broad range of challenging scenarios encompassing medical, pharmaceutical, environmental, food and veterinary applications. We also supply high value and high accuracy measurement services.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** <http://www.lgcgroup.com>
- **Phone:** 0208 8943 7393
- **Email:** nmshelp@lgcgroup.com
- **Address:** LGC, Queens Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LY, UK

Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)

LEPs are locally-owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses. They play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

LEPs are well placed to encourage and support innovative and high growth businesses. A number of LEPs are also developing various programmes and initiatives to support key industry sectors and business clusters and networks. Many LEPs are also now actively supporting Enterprise Zones in their areas.

The support available from LEPs for business varies, but may include:

- provision of business information and advice
- facilitating and supporting local business networks
- signposting businesses to relevant national and local programmes and funding opportunities, including Technology Strategy Board programmes
- targeted initiatives to support businesses in key industry sectors
- interactive websites and signposting to other external sources of advice and support
- networking opportunities and supply chain development initiatives.

However, please note that the nature, level and range of support provided does vary significantly between LEPs, and it is worth checking to see what the LEP in your own locality is doing, and what help and support it may offer to support businesses and encourage innovation. To find out more about LEPs and their role: <http://www.bis.gov.uk/policies/economic-development/leps>

To identify the LEP that covers your own geographic location and what it is doing to support economic growth and businesses in your area, visit www.lepnetwork.org.uk/leps.html.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.lepnetwork.org.uk/
- **Email:** info@lepnetwork.org.uk

London Higher

London Higher is an umbrella body representing over 40 publicly funded universities and higher education colleges in London, as well as several universities with centres in London and a small number of private providers.

The organisation currently has six core Divisions, each with its own stream of research and advocacy activities, along with several discrete projects.

London Higher's outputs are diverse and include research reports, promotional material, meetings and workshops, parliamentary lobbying, media management and receptions. It also runs a wide range of advisory groups and networks.

London Higher works closely with partner organisations including the Greater London Authority (GLA), London First, the business sector and higher education bodies. For an overview of partners and stakeholders, visit the London Higher website.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.londonhigher.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 020 7383 0988
- **Email:** [See the contacts list](#)
- **Address:** London Higher, Tavistock House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JB

LINC Scotland

LINC Scotland is the national association for business angels in Scotland, with a membership which includes many active individual investors and most of the main angel groups or syndicates. It represents its members at government level in Edinburgh, London and Brussels. Since 1993, LINC Scotland has played a significant and active part in changing the business culture in Scotland and the Scottish business angel marketplace is now recognised as amongst the most developed in Europe.

At a practical level, part of LINC Scotland's role is to support and improve the functioning of the local business angel market. At individual deal level, LINC Scotland focuses on improving the efficiency of the 'process' by making targeted introductions to well matched business angels among its members (acting as facilitators not investment advisers).

The emergence and growth of structured investor groups or syndicates has been a particular feature of the past six or seven years and although it is probably a naturally occurring part of market evolution it was identified and actively promoted by LINC from an early stage.

LINC currently has eighteen member groups and aspires to help launch at least five more over the next two years. The leaders of all the groups participate in a liaison network (the Angel Leaders Forum - ALF) which meets every two months and has become a significant influence in the marketplace and with Scottish Enterprise and the Scottish Government.

The professionalisation and capacity-building which arise from group development has helped to create entities with the credibility to be co-investment partners for both private institutions and the public sector. Around half of the partners of the Scottish Co-Investment Fund are LINC member groups and these have delivered more than 75% of the investment deals for that fund. LINC itself is an original co-signatory with the Scottish Investment Bank of the master agreements covering the Scottish Seed Fund and the Scottish Co-Investment Fund, both of which largely operate in the 'pre-bank' sector of the market.

Many of the businesses that are supported by the Technology Strategy Board will be considering how to raise finance - perhaps to have the resources to 'match' a grant offer or to ensure that they have sufficient capital to be able to deliver the successful commercialisation of an innovative project. For smaller, early stage businesses, investment by a business angel may be ideal - often bringing a combination of capital and expertise to help to achieve the growth plans of the founders. LINC Scotland has unique insight and connections in this market in Scotland.

The requirements of business angels when considering potential opportunities may be very specific – by amount of investment, by stage of development of the business or by sector. It is very important for businesses to consider carefully whether a particular source of capital is suitable and to seek expert advice before entering into any commitment.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.lincscot.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0141 221 3321

Innovation Directory: M-O

Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS)

MAS is funded by the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills](#). It provides specialist help, advice and support for manufacturing companies who are based in England, helping them to improve their business.

MAS is designed to help manufacturers to streamline processes, reduce waste, become more energy efficient and generally improve and grow their business.

Regardless of the size of the business, MAS' advisers are highly skilled and experienced in 'hands-on' shop floor working and management and can help, regardless of the size of your business.

The MAS advisers will work with your company and workforce to ensure that you are aware of the latest manufacturing techniques and and the company is run in the best way possible. If you are a small or medium sized manufacturer in England, many of the services they offer are free and supplemented by appropriate grant funding.

MAS has been a major success since its launch in 2002. Working with thousands of companies it now plays a vital role in helping manufacturers in England to share knowledge, improve productivity and achieve success in an increasing competitive global economy.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.mymas.org
- **Phone:** 0845 658 9600
- **Email:** advice@mymas.org

million+

million+, a university think-tank, uses rigorous research and evidence-based policy to address and provide solutions to complex problems in higher education. It publishes research reports and policy papers and submits evidence to parliamentarians, government and other agencies, aiming to develop and shape public policy and funding regimes on a non-party basis. The ultimate goal is to enable people from every walk of life to benefit from access to universities that excel in teaching, research and knowledge transfer and to promote collaboration between universities, business, government, and other stakeholders to enhance social and economic outcomes.

UK universities educate over two million students a year. These students and graduates are entrepreneurs, business people, artists, scientists, engineers, teachers, health and care professionals who are building a modern world. They epitomise the dynamism and diversity of modern society and they study and work in the UK and in countries throughout the world.

As part of its role as a university think-tank, million+ provides up-to-date briefings for affiliates, facilitates information exchange and discourse between university leaders,

Ministers, MPs, members of the House of Lords and stakeholders such as the National Union of Students and hosts working groups for senior staff involved in research, enterprise and employability, admissions, public affairs and teacher education.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.millionplus.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0207 717 1655
- **Email:** info@millionplus.ac.uk
- **Address:** million+, 90 London Road, London SE1 6LN

National Centre for Universities and Business (NCUB)

NCUB is an independent, not-for-profit business established in April 2013 by the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills \(BIS\)](#) to strengthen the strategic partnership between universities and business, with a view to driving economic growth and recovery. Through facilitating, integrating and communicating, NCUB aims to promote effective business-university collaboration which nurtures the right talent, innovation and expertise for the UK's future growth. NCUB targets and partners with SMEs, universities, corporates and government and devolved administrations.

Currently, NCUB is working on a range of initiatives to strengthen collaboration between the UK's higher education and business sectors: from projects looking forward to 2030 and beyond, to schemes concerned with what is happening on the ground right now:

- [Annual Lecture](#)
- [Brighton Fuse](#)
- [Collaboration](#)
- [50 under 30](#)
- [Food Economy](#)
- [Global Graduates](#)
- [Growing Value](#)
- [Interdisciplinarity](#)
- [London Fusion](#)
- [Skills Survey](#)
- [Talent 2030](#)
- [Quality Placements](#)

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.ncub.co.uk/>
- **Phone:** 020 7383 7667
- **Email:** ncub@ncub.co.uk
- **Address:** Studio 11, Tiger House, Burton Street, London, WC1H 9BY

National Measurement Office (NMO)

The National Measurement Office is an Executive Agency of the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) with responsibility for the development of the National Measurement System and for the funding of the scientific measurement research programmes delivered by the national measurement institutes. It is also responsible for ensuring that all trade measurements are accurate, legal and fair to buyer and seller.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/national-measurement-office>
- **Phone:** 020 8943 7272
- **Fax:** 020 8943 7270
- **Address:** Stanton Avenue, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0JZ

National Measurement System (NMS)

The NMS is a network of laboratories and processes that provide measurement standards and calibration testing facilities. It maintains the measurement infrastructure, represents the position of UK measurement internationally and influences the development of standards.

The NMS is funded by the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills](#), who invest £70m a year to maintain and improve the measurement infrastructure. It supports innovation in business by demonstrating the compliance of new products and processes, reducing development times, and making existing product improvements possible.

Part of the responsibility of the NMS is to ensure that trade measurements are accurate, legal and fair. Measurement underpins a wide range of public services, including consumer protection, forensic science, environmental controls, safe medical treatment and food safety regulation.

The National Measurement System Laboratories are the [National Physical Laboratory \(NPL\)](#), [LGC](#), [NEL](#) and [National Measurement Office \(NMO\)](#).

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <https://www.gov.uk/national-measurement-system--2>
- **Phone:** 0207 215 5000
- **Email:** enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk
- **Address:** Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

National Physical Laboratory (NPL)

The NPL's expertise and innovations can reduce the need for specialist in-house resources, lower technical risk and can deliver revenue, cost and time savings for complex technical challenges.

For over 110 years, NPL has solved technical challenges for government and business. Today their expertise is applied to a global customer base across a range of markets. NPL solutions are delivered in world-class research facilities using the outputs from significant research programmes supported by UK government.

Customers have access to over 500 scientists and engineers, along with external national and international networks of partners. NPL's collaboration network of science organisations, industry, academia and international laboratories has proved invaluable to deliver the requirements for its customers, ranging from government departments, start-ups to large global multi-national corporations.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.npl.co.uk
- **Phone:** 0208 977 3222
- **Email:** peter.benson@npl.co.uk
- **Address:** Hampton Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 0LW

NEL

NEL is a leading provider of specialist technical consultancy, research, development, testing, and measurement services to the world's energy sectors, including oil and gas as well as low-carbon. We have wide-ranging engineering development and innovation capability as well as specialist expertise in fluid properties and flow measurement. We are the custodian of the UK's National Standards for Flow Measurement.

Boasting independent world class expertise and facilities, we provide services in key areas including:

- Fluid measurement consultancy – measurement system selection, audit and uncertainty studies
- Measurement system research, development, test and calibration – single phase, wet gas and multiphase
- Erosion – assessment and validation
- Environmental – produced water, oil-in-water, emissions and carbon capture and storage
- Low carbon energy – wind energy research, development and MCS certification
- CFD Modelling – flow assurance, measurement and uncertainty
- Training and knowledge transfer

Our professional engineers and technologists continually deliver innovative yet practical solutions, forge partnerships and successfully bring together leading edge developments based on global research and comprehensive industry knowledge.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.tuvnel.com
- **Phone:** 0135 522 0222
- **Email:** info@tuvnel.com
- **Address:** East Kilbride, Glasgow, G75 0QF, UK

Nesta

Nesta is an innovation charity with a mission to help people and organisations bring great ideas to life. Working in partnerships, it supports ideas that can help improve lives, including early-stage investment to in-depth research and practical programmes.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** <http://www.nesta.org.uk/>
- **Phone:** 020 7438 2500
- **Email:** information@nesta.org.uk
- **Address:** 1 Plough Place, London, EC4A 1DE

The N8 Industry Innovation Forum

The N8 Research Partnership is the collaboration of the eight most research intensive universities in the North of England: Durham, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield and York.

The forum was set up in response to industry demand for a more coordinated, less fragmented offer from the research base. Its main objective is to create new collaborations between industry and the research base to drive innovation, competitive advantage and growth.

Meetings are held on specific themes chosen by businesses where there is a need to match industry challenges and ideas with new insights and solutions from the research base. Support is then provided to take ideas forward and develop projects.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.n8research.org.uk
- **Email:** info@N8research.org.uk
- **Address:** Sarah Jackson, N8 Director, N8 Research Partnership, c/o C20 Ferranti Building, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL

Innovation Directory: P-R

PraxisUnico

PraxisUnico is the UK's leading organisation for commercialisation professionals and provides a forum for exchange of best practice on commercialisation, underpinned by first-class training and development programmes.

As an educational, not-for-profit organisation, PraxisUnico will work with you as a business to encourage innovation and as a voice for the research commercialisation profession. It offers a range of practical tools and resources to facilitate interaction between the public sector research base, the government and business.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.praxisunico.org.uk
- **Phone:** 0122 365 9950
- **Email:** info@praxisunico.org.uk
- **Address:** Jeffreys Building, St John's Innovation Park, Cowley Road, Cambridge, CB4 0DS

Regional University Organisations

There are a number of regional university organisations that help businesses work with universities. These organisations highlight what universities can offer businesses in terms of research and development, consultancy, facilities, new business support, intellectual property and networking opportunities. They also provide information on training and development opportunities for staff, student and graduate placements/internships and recruitment.

Further information/contact:

- Universities West Midlands: <http://www.universitieswm.co.uk/business-engagement>
- Universities South West: <http://www.universitiessouthwest.ac.uk/business/business.aspx>
- Yorkshire Universities: <http://www.yorkshireuniversities.ac.uk/work/>

Research and Development (R&D) tax credits

R&D tax credits are a tax relief designed to encourage greater R&D spending, leading in turn to greater investment in innovation. They work by reducing a company's tax bill by an amount equal to a percentage of the company's allowable R&D expenditure. A company can only claim R&D tax credits if it is liable for Corporation Tax.

Your company or organisation can only claim for R&D Relief if an R&D project seeks to achieve an advance in overall knowledge or capability in a field of science or technology through the resolution of scientific or technological uncertainty - and not simply an advance in its own state of knowledge or capability.

There are two schemes for claiming relief:

- The Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Scheme
- The Large Company Scheme

An SME may claim a higher rate of relief than a large company. Also, an SME which has no tax bill to reduce may claim a cash payment instead.

Rate of tax relief under the Large Company Scheme:

From 1 April 2008, the tax relief on allowable R&D costs is 130 per cent - that is, for each £100 of qualifying costs, your company or organisation could have the income on which Corporation Tax is paid reduced by an additional £30 on top of the £100 spent. If instead there is an allowable trading loss for the period, this can be increased by 30 per cent of the qualifying R&D costs - £30 for each £100 spent. This loss can be carried forwards or back in the normal way.

Rate of tax relief or credit under the SME Scheme:

The tax relief on allowable R&D costs incurred after 1 April 2011 is 200 per cent - that is, for each £100 of qualifying costs, your company or organisation could have its Corporation Tax bill reduced by an additional £100 on top of the £100 spent.

If instead there is an allowable trading loss for the period, this can be increased by 100 per cent of the qualifying R&D costs - so that's £100 for each £100 spent. This loss can be carried forward in the normal way, but only if you choose not to convert it to tax credits.

R&D tax credits were introduced for SMEs in 2000 and extended to large companies from 2002. Under the normal EU definition, a SME is a company or organisation with fewer than 250 employees and either of the following:

- an annual turnover not exceeding €50m
- a balance sheet not exceeding €43m.

This definition was used in deciding eligibility for R&D tax credits until 1 August 2008. Since then, a more liberal definition of SME has been used – but only in the context of R&D tax credits. This new definition, still in force, is that: A SME is a company or organisation with fewer than 500 employees and either of the following:

- an annual turnover not exceeding €100m
- a balance sheet not exceeding €86m.

However, a company may not be considered to be a SME if it is part of a larger enterprise that, taken as a whole, would fail these tests. For further information about rates of deduction and payable credits, and who can claim them (including sub-contractors), please see the [HMRC website](#).

Subsidies and grants

If your company or organisation has received a subsidy or grant for an R&D project, this may affect how much tax relief you can claim. If the subsidy or grant is a 'State Aid' recognised by the European Commission, then you can't claim anything under the SME Scheme. For any other type of subsidy or grant, the R&D expenditure you can claim for is reduced by the amount of subsidy or grant received. You may be able to claim under the Large Company Scheme instead.

If you do claim under the Large Company Scheme, then the large company rules apply. The rate of tax relief is lower, and you can't convert the relief into payable tax credits. **Find out whether a grant will reduce the amount of R&D Relief you can claim.**

The Patent Box

The Patent Box enables companies to apply a lower rate of Corporation Tax to profits earned after 1 April 2013 from its patented inventions and certain other innovations. The relief will be phased in from 1 April 2013 and the lower rate of Corporation Tax to be applied will be 10 per cent.

The Patent Box: Aims to:

- create a competitive tax environment for companies to develop and exploit patents in the UK
- provide an incentive for companies to retain and commercialise patents in the UK and to develop new innovative patented products here
- encourage companies to locate high-value jobs associated with the development, manufacture and exploitation of patents in the UK
- encourage investment and growth in the UK.

The Patent Box: Who will benefit?

- a wide range of companies which own and use patents and other qualifying intellectual property (IP)
- in many cases companies can benefit where they have rights to IP owned by others
- companies must meet development and active ownership criteria
- companies can benefit regardless of how the IP is used.

The Patent Box: Key points

- a reduced 10 per cent rate of corporation tax on profits attributed to patents and other similar IP from 1 April 2013
- worldwide income from existing as well as new IP will be included. To enable this, the full benefits will be phased in over five years
- UK businesses can benefit regardless of how they use their patents
- in many cases the profit attributed to patents is calculated from total profits using a step-by-step method
- companies which use their patents to perform processes or provide services can benefit up to the level of an arm's length royalty
- smaller claims benefit from a simplified calculation
- technical changes made in response to the June 2011 consultation will result in a more competitive and accessible regime.

The full benefit of the regime will be phased in from 1 April 2013. You will need to apply an appropriate percentage to the profits your company earns from its patented inventions. The appropriate percentages for each financial year are:

- 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014: 60 per cent
- 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015: 70 per cent
- 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016: 80 per cent
- 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017: 90 per cent
- from 1 April 2017: 100 per cent

There are specialist HMRC units located throughout the UK who are able to assist you with your claim. These units are organised on a geographical basis, dealing with claims from companies whose main research and development base is within their postcode allocation. These units will also answer your Patent Box questions. You can contact them before making a claim or while you are putting together your claim.

In addition, HMRC has a free pre-recorded 'webinar' that provides a basic overview and introduction to R&D tax credits and the Patent Box, and explains who is eligible to claim, how to make a claim and where to get further help and advice for your business.

Further information/contact:

- Web: www.hmrc.gov.uk/ct/forms-rates/claims/randd.htm
- Web: www.hmrc.gov.uk/manuals/cirdmanual/CIRD80350.htm

Research Councils UK

RCUK invests £3bn a year across the breadth of disciplines with the focus on funding excellent research that leads to economic and societal impact through the contribution of research to the growth, prosperity and well-being of the UK. RCUK builds productive partnerships with businesses of every size to enable them to work with world-class researchers to turn knowledge into innovation and growth.

The seven Research Councils work in partnership with a number of stakeholders including industry, the public sector, civil society organisations and the Technology Strategy Board. Working together as RCUK allows the Research Councils to ensure plans and strategies are aligned across key economic sectors.

Research Councils fund research in collaboration with over 2,500 user organisations, including large corporations and around 1,000 of these collaborations are with SMEs. Additionally, they also support the two-way flow of talented people between business and the research base, collaborative doctoral studentships, enterprise training, commercialisation and development opportunities and provide access to world leading facilities, campuses and data.

Research Councils also have a national and international picture of where research excellence lies, understanding trends, behaviours and uncertainties at the leading edge. The Research Councils play a brokering role by talking directly to companies on how to engage with the research base bringing stakeholders and academics together to build relationships and networks also providing access to skills and expertise to deliver new innovative solutions and products.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.rcuk.ac.uk
- **Phone:** 0179 3 44 4420
- **Email:** info@rcuk.ac.uk
- **Address:** Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1ET

The Russell Group

Russell Group universities are the leading institutions in the UK for innovation and have extensive experience of working with businesses to translate world-class research into improved products and services. Partners include global corporations, small and medium sized companies, and public sector organisations.

Through Russell Group universities you can link up with the latest research relevant to your business and engage with interdisciplinary teams able to tackle complex business challenges. You will also have access to state of the art research facilities and equipment. Russell Group universities account for 57% of the total income from collaborative research involving both public funding and funding from businesses to UK universities.

Russell Group universities also have a strong tradition of bringing innovations to market through the creation of high-tech spin-out companies. Over the past two years, Russell Group universities have accounted for around half of the IP income generated by UK universities.

Visit the [Russell Group website](#) to find out how each of the group's universities could work with your business.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.russellgroup.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 020 7969 5288 (PA to CEO Wendy Piatt)
- **Email:** enquiries@russellgroup.ac.uk

Innovation Directory: S-U

Scottish Enterprise

Scottish Enterprise is the enterprise, innovation and investment agency for southern Scotland and the central belt. Working in partnership with industry, academia and the public sector, Scottish Enterprise aims to increase productivity in Scotland by helping businesses to start and grow, encouraging innovation and creating the right conditions for companies to access property, markets and finance.

Scottish Enterprise can offer your business a wide range of advice and support including:

- securing funding and grants to develop new business ideas and products
- finding investors, business partners and collaborators
- getting qualified, practical advice from business professionals on how to achieve business growth
- refining existing products and services to make them more efficient and cost-effective
- information and advice on adopting new working methods or production techniques
- support to enable and equip businesses to break into new markets.

Working in partnership with industry, academia and the public sector, SE aims to: 'increase productivity in Scotland by helping businesses to start and grow, encouraging innovation and supporting companies to access property, markets and finance'. SE priorities include the promotion of innovation, commercialisation of academic ideas into business opportunities, e-business, globalisation and economic inclusion. It is responsible for delivering Technology Strategy Board programmes in Scotland.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.scottish-enterprise.com
- **Phone:** 0845 607 8787 (calls charged at local rate)
- **Phone:** 0141 228 2000 (from mobile phones or if outside Scotland)
- **Email:** enquiries@scotent.co.uk
- **Address:** Scottish Enterprise, Atrium Court, 50 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 6HQ

SETsquared

SETsquared is collaboration between the universities of Bath, Bristol, Exeter, Southampton and Surrey. SETsquared provides services to early-stage knowledge based companies with high growth potential in order to accelerate their development.

The universities collaborate on enterprise activities and collectively support the growth and success of new business opportunities through spin-outs, licensing and incubation. The Partnership also works with industry through research collaboration and consultancy.

The Partnership's universities:

- generate quality 'spin-out' companies from university research discoveries
- support early-stage, high-growth science and technology companies from the universities' local communities, by providing entrepreneurs with business mentoring, routes to funding and industries, as well as affordable office space
- link established companies with university experts and facilities to further their businesses
- provide students and staff with business skills.

Technology Transfer

Technology Transfer professionals have fostered close working relationships with academics, bridging the gap between complex academic research, its commercial application and business creation. This has resulted in the flotation of six spin-out companies with a combined market capitalisation of over £250m.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.setsquared.co.uk
- **Address:** SETsquared Partnership, Research and Innovation Services, Building 37, University of Southampton, Highfield , Southampton, SO17 1BJ

United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)

UKAS is the sole national accreditation body recognised by government to assess organisations that provide certification, testing, inspection and calibration services, against internationally agreed standards. Accreditation by UKAS demonstrates the competence, impartiality and performance capability of these evaluators.

UKAS accreditation supports innovation by providing a business-friendly way for organisations to demonstrate conformity with standards, helping to disseminate innovative practices without imposing unnecessary barriers to entry. Accreditation also provides the public sector with innovative ways of achieving policy objectives.

Further information/contact:

- Web: www.ukas.com
- Email: aneet.goomer@ukas.com
- Phone: 020 8917 8467
- Address: 21-47 High Street, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 4UN

UK Trade & Investment (UKTI)

UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) is the Government Department that helps **UK-based companies** succeed in global markets and assists **overseas firms** in bringing their high-quality investment to the UK. Drawing on the expertise of professional trade and industry advisers in the UK alongside a global network of experts based in British diplomatic offices overseas, UKTI works closely with key UK innovation organisations to provide support for internationalisation.

If you are a **UK-based company** looking to go global, whether **new to exporting** or **experienced**, we can find you a local **Trade Advisor** from our regional network to give you face to face advice with authority, introduce **market specialists** with high-quality information on the markets you are interested in, and provide you with free updates on **business opportunities** and relevant events and activities you can be a part of, including international trade visits.

Open to Export is a free new community-driven service giving you access to a wealth of information and experts, helping you to consider new markets and find new customers. If you have a question about exporting, then post it on the Open to Export platform. UK trade officers in Embassies and High Commissions, as well as recognised experts around the world will respond and help you take your business overseas.

We recognise that internationalisation can take many forms: seeking a technology partner, help with accessing valuable opportunities, or securing overseas investment – get in **contact** to talk further about your needs.

If you are an **overseas company** seeking to know more about the UK and what it can offer your business, our inward investment teams offer tailored advice – why not make use of our network of sectoral experts with representatives in 30 countries? Our online map of UK business and research excellence provides a simple point of entry to the UK. Contact the **Investment Services Team** to talk further about your needs.

If you are a **UK innovation organisation**, UKTI can help you develop and extend your international links. UKTI's Technology, Innovation and Events directorate partners with key stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem and understands the international environment for innovation. UKTI works closely with the Global Science and Innovation Network and the Foreign Office overseas, as well as the key domestic players, to make the most of international collaboration on innovation and help businesses internationalise and grow. To find out more about UKTI's work in this area contact the **UKTI Science and Innovation Unit** If you are interested more generally in potential international collaborations you can follow this link to reach a specialist from the **Global Science and Innovation Network**.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.ukti.gov.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0207 215 5000
- **Email:** [Complete the online form](#)
- **Address:** UK Trade & Investment Enquiry Service, BIS Enquiry Unit, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET

UK Export Finance

UK Export Finance is the UK's official export credit agency. As a government department (formally named the Export Credits Guarantee Department) that operates under an Act of Parliament, UK Export Finance complements the private market by providing government assistance to exporters and investors, principally in the form of insurance policies and guarantees on bank loans.

UK Export Finance offers a range of products and services to assist a wide range of UK exporters including:

- a range of credit insurance and financing products to complement the commercial finance and insurance markets
- political risk insurance on overseas investments.

What does UK Export Finance do?

UK Export Finance is the UK's official export credit agency. It provide services such as:

- insuring UK exporters against non-payment by their overseas buyers
- helping overseas buyers to purchase goods and/or services from UK exporters by guaranteeing bank loans to finance those purchases
- insuring UK investors in overseas markets against political risks.

The amount and terms of support available depend on the risk involved. We work closely with exporters, project sponsors, banks and buyers.

What UK Export Finance doesn't do

When insuring UK exporters against non-payment, we do not provide:

- cover for exports to any European Union country and certain countries belonging to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) where the manufacturing period under that contract plus any period of credit given to the buyer total less than two years
- cover unless it can be demonstrated that cover is unavailable from the private sector.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-export-finance>
- **Phone:** 020 7512 7887
- **Address:** UK Export Finance, PO Box 2200, 2 Exchange Tower, Harbour Exchange Square, London E14 9GS

United Kingdom Science Park Association (UKSPA)

The mission of UKSPA is to be the authoritative body on the planning, development and the creation of Science Parks that are facilitating the development and management of innovative, high growth, knowledge-based organisations.

A Science Park is a business support and technology transfer initiative that:

- encourages and supports the start up and incubation of innovation-led, high-growth, knowledge-based businesses
- provides an environment where larger and international businesses can develop specific and close interactions with a particular centre of knowledge creation for their mutual benefit
- has formal and operational links with centres of knowledge creation such as universities, higher education institutes and research organisations. **See the [directory of Science Parks](#).**

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.ukspa.org.uk
- **Phone:** 0179 953 2050
- **Email:** info@ukspa.org.uk
- **Address:** The United Kingdom Science Park Association, Chesterford Research Park, Little Chesterford, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1XL

Universities Scotland

Universities Scotland aims to make the fullest possible contribution to a confident, successful and outward-looking Scotland. Scotland's people, places and businesses will be central to Scotland's future and universities are uniquely placed to make a direct and distinctive contribution to each of these three priorities.

The work of Universities Scotland is split into five broad policy areas:

- Learning, teaching and skills
- Research and knowledge exchange
- Resources, governance and administration
- Widening access and equal opportunities
- Internationalisation

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.universities-scotland.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0131 226 1111
- **Email:** info@universities-scotland.ac.uk
- **Address:** Universities Scotland, Holyrood Park House, 106 Holyrood Road, Edinburgh EH8 8AS

Universities UK (UUK)

UUK is the definitive voice for universities in the UK, providing high quality leadership and support to its members, to promote a successful and diverse higher education sector.

UUK envisages an autonomous university sector that, through excellence in teaching, research, and knowledge exploitation, raises aspirations, has an international reputation for innovation, and contributes to the wider economy and society.

Aiming to ensure that higher education helps the UK to maintain its global economic position, UUK's work on research and innovation involves close cooperation with other key stakeholders including funders, charities, government and the private sector.

Investment in the research base, along with policies targeted at improving the links between universities and the wider economy, have ensured that universities are well placed to support businesses in improving their competitiveness and productivity through knowledge, technology and skills. The volume of collaborative research undertaken in partnership with universities has grown significantly over recent years and reached a value of £3.3bn in 2010–11.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0207 419 4111
- **Email:** info@universitiesuk.ac.uk
- **Address:** Universities UK, Woburn House, 20 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HQ

University Alliance

University Alliance brings together innovative and entrepreneurial universities from across the UK to tackle the big issues facing universities, people and the economy. Alliance universities are leading an innovative approach to creating entrepreneurial learning and research environments in partnership with industry and the professions. Together, they tell a compelling story about the role of universities in equipping people, organisations and communities to create new knowledge and new futures.

Research at Alliance universities forms an essential part of the UK's research and innovation landscape alongside blue-skies research. Over 250 research units across Alliance universities have 4-star world-leading research with over 50% of Alliance research in STEM-related areas, often applied to key growth industries.

Alliance universities have a big focus on combining science and technology with design and creative industries. Their strong partnerships with industry and professions help ensure students are learning in a real world environment with up to 70% of all courses professionally accredited. Over half of all students enrolled on sandwich courses in the UK are at Alliance universities. Start-ups from Alliance universities generate over half of the turnover of university start-ups.

Visit the [University Alliance website](http://www.unialliance.ac.uk/) to get in touch with one of the 22 Alliance universities.

Further information/contact

- **Web:** <http://www.unialliance.ac.uk/>
- **Phone:** 0207 839 2757
- **Email:** info@unialliance.ac.uk
- **Address:** University Alliance, 49 Whitehall, London SW1A 2BX

Innovation Directory: V-Z

Welsh Government

The Welsh Government provides assistance and funding to businesses in Wales to promote and facilitate innovation. Technology-based businesses in the manufacturing, engineering and scientific fields can benefit from the integrated innovation support package available.

Through a team of experienced Innovation Specialists, Welsh Government can help you develop innovative new products, services and processes, and assist you in exploiting these commercially. They can also help your business access the support and funding it needs at key stages of the innovation process.

An integrated **innovation support package** is available from the Welsh Government, which encourages and enables your business to:

- invest in Research and Development (R&D) in order to harness the commercial opportunities of innovation and research
- work with universities and other academic institutions to exploit commercially directed research
- adopt a more focused approach, tackling the barriers to investment in R&D and innovation.

The Welsh Government works closely with the Technology Strategy Board to actively encourage and support business and innovation in Wales.

Support

The Welsh Government can assist businesses with:

- new product development
- design and manufacturing
- managing Intellectual Property (IP) - including obtaining IP information, developing a strategy, funding to protect IP and assistance through the **Patent Library (PATLIB) centre**
- research and development projects
- commercialisation - access to markets
- sourcing and accessing SMARTCymru Research, Development & Innovation (RD&I) funding from Welsh Government and other UK and European schemes.

Funding for Innovation

Welsh Government can provide financial assistance at key stages of the innovation process including:

- for the research and development of new, technically innovative products and processes with good commercial potential
- towards proposal preparations to obtain European Framework and external funding for R&D
- to allow businesses and academia to travel abroad to meet potential R&D partners
- to Wales' academic institutions to facilitate closer collaborations with businesses.

Innovation collaboration

Businesses can also access a wealth of technical innovation expertise and facilities in Wales' universities and colleges to enable you to gain the competitive edge. Support from the Welsh Government is available to:

- source and get in touch with the right experts or facilities
- identify academic partners for collaborative R&D
- source quality graduates and postgraduates through placement schemes
- identify and access industry-focussed networks to share expertise and knowledge on emerging technologies.

Further information/contact:

- **Web:** www.business.wales.gov.uk/innovation
- **Phone:** 0300 060 3000
- **Email:** innovation@wales.gsi.gov.uk