


# The Marches




Our modern Industrial Strategy sets out our long-term plan to boost productivity by backing business to create high quality, well-paid jobs throughout the United Kingdom with investment in skills, industries and infrastructure.

In the Marches a partnership of business and civic leaders – alongside other local partners – is working with the government to build on existing strengths, help business to flourish, and grow skills and opportunities for workers across the area.

Industrial Strategy highlights include:

 Investment for the development of safe drone technology, in particular for inspecting oil and gas civil engineering projects.

 **£9.3m** to accelerate housebuilding by providing vital infrastructure to access new and existing sites.

 **£3.6m** for the Telford Eastern Gateway, bringing wider economic benefits to the automotive supply chain through links to the Jaguar Land Rover site in Telford.

 **329,600** people in employment, an increase of **19,600** since 2010. **22,700** workers directly benefiting from the National Living and Minimum Wages. **7,580** apprenticeships starts last year.



Population: 684,300  
Businesses: 35,510

## Case study: Marches Centre of Manufacturing & Technology

The development of the Marches Centre of Manufacturing & Technology at Bridgnorth will provide learners with opportunities to apply new-found skills in a real-life manufacturing situation. The £2m development of the centre will support apprenticeships, technical qualifications and bite size training courses in a high-tech environment, to support local students, firms and their supply chains.

For more examples go to [bit.ly/IS-map](https://bit.ly/IS-map)

The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership is now working with the government to develop its Local Industrial Strategy.

**We have committed more than £45bn to Industrial Strategy programmes supporting research, local infrastructure, training and business growth throughout the United Kingdom. This money is already starting to be spent on the ground.**