

# Thames Valley Berkshire



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 Thames Valley Berkshire 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.

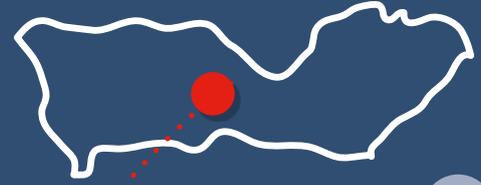
Industrial Strategy highlights include:

 Funding for **Praxis Medicare** who are working with IBM Watson in Newbury, to develop the use of AI and predictive health analytics to identify the underlying causes of mental and physical illnesses.

 **£6m** to accelerate housebuilding by providing vital infrastructure to access new and existing sites.

 **£2m** to provide access improvements to Burnham station.

 **471,000** people in employment, an increase of **34,600** since 2010. **16,700** workers directly benefiting from the National Living and Minimum Wages. **5,550** apprenticeships starts last year.



Population: 890,600  
Businesses: 43,100

## Case study: The Smart City Cluster

The Smart City Cluster across Reading, Bracknell, Wokingham and West Berkshire is providing a low powered wide area network (LPWAN) as a platform for the Internet of Things, delivering opportunities for low-cost deployment of smart devices for business, developers and local authorities. A series of smart tech solutions will be integrated, including air quality monitoring using a wide dispersal of low-cost monitors.

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

Thames Valley Berkshire 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.**