

## **SWINDON AND WILTSHIRE LEP GETTING BUILDING FUND**

The Government is making £900 million available through the new Getting Building Fund (GBF) for investment in local, shovel-ready infrastructure projects to stimulate jobs and support economic recovery across the country. The **Swindon and Wiltshire LEP** has been allocated **£9.7m** from the GBF for a wide-ranging package of projects that will deliver a much-needed boost to the local economy.

**In the Swindon and Wiltshire LEP, GBF funds will deliver key science and innovation projects in the cyber, health and digital technologies sectors. These are new projects that will bring public and private sector investment over the next two years, at a critical time for the region as it looks to recover from the impacts of Covid-19. Each project brings together academic research with industry expertise to drive growth and jobs in the region and build the UK's knowledge and resilience in these key sectors of the economy.**

### **Indicative outputs<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Direct Jobs Created</b>	745
<b>Construction Jobs Created</b>	258
<b>Jobs Safeguarded</b>	180
<b>Commercial Space Unlocked (sqm)</b>	6970
<b>New Learning Space Unlocked</b>	500
<b>New Learners Assisted</b>	1735
<b>Businesses Assisted</b>	405
<b>Roads/Cycle Lanes/Walkways Unlocked</b>	0.3
<b>R&amp;D Floorspace</b>	2000
<b>Improved Learning/ Training Space Unlocked</b>	500
<b>Public Realm/ Green Space Created</b>	1000
<b>New superfast broadband connections</b>	3

### **Summary of projects**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Business Cyber Centre</b>	At the intersection of the Cyber Valley, Western Gateway and MOD cyber centre, the Business Cyber Centre will unite industry, military, the National Cyber Security Centre and academic expertise. Three capabilities will drive growth: a cyber response team; an academy and employment hub; and an accelerator. This Centre of Excellence will ensure SME cyber resilience and help close the cyber skills gap. Initially creating 250 roles, with 45 from an anchor tenant already secured, the training throughout will be 1700 pa seeking candidates from under-represented groups and re-skilling military leavers. The Centre will facilitate secure operations across a flexible workforce by opening up remote-working employment opportunities. The Business Cyber Centre will level-up the UK Cyber presence as a rural hub for businesses.
<b>Porton Science Park</b>	Creation of 3500m2 research and innovation centre providing meeting and conference space, workspace, laboratory bench space all linked to existing Porton campus to be developed in partnership with Public Health England (PHE) and the Defence

<sup>1</sup> The outputs listed are locally reported and will undergo further quality assurance before being finalised and confirmed in grant offer letters

	<p>Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL). This innovation centre will enable collaborative working between safe, secure SME's and the establishments at Porton Down (DSTL, PHE) and wider higher education institutions on research projects some of which will have national significance. An accelerated delivery programme is achieved through the use of off-site manufacture. The building will achieve high sustainability standards.</p>
<p><b>Carriage Works, Swindon</b></p>	<p>The Carriage Works are Grade-II listed buildings, built 150 years ago by the Great Western Railway. The revitalisation secures a sustainable future for this key heritage asset. Through quality fit out &amp; high-speed fibre connectivity, this dynamic education and employment environment will attract high tech incoming businesses to support Swindon's ambition to compete at the forefront of digital innovation, using technology for positive change. The anchor tenants, Royal Agricultural University and the University of Bath, will attract learners through to level 8, and importantly young entrepreneurs/start up SMEs. OJEU procured Frameworks are in place allowing immediate draw down of funding.</p>

**Swindon and Wiltshire LEP** will be expected to deliver the agreed projects but will have flexibility to deliver the greatest economic benefits to the area. Any significant changes to the projects should be discussed with the Government in advance, and all investment decisions must be undertaken in line with locally agreed audit and scrutiny arrangements.