UK Government

Delivering the **UK's Modern Industrial Strategy**

Year One

GREAT
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

CONTENTS

Introduction

The UK is one year into the delivery of the Modern Industrial Strategy, a 10-year plan focused on increasing business investment to drive economic growth. It is about building great companies, creating high-quality jobs and supporting communities throughout the UK.

The Industrial Strategy targets action where it will have the greatest impact: in eight key sectors that define the UK's 21st-century economy, those frontier technologies and specialties that are particular strengths and the foundational industries critical to their success.

The pace of technological and industrial change is accelerating. New capabilities, shifting global competition and emerging industries are reshaping where investment flows and where future growth will be created. The Industrial Strategy is helping ensure the UK remains one of the world's leading places to innovate, invest and grow businesses in the industries that will shape the future economy.

The 'IS-8' – advanced manufacturing, clean energy industries, life sciences, creative industries, financial services, digital and technologies, defence and professional and business services – are found in communities across the country and their benefits are tangible. IS-8 are more productive than the UK national average and pay their workers £7,900 more annually. They create dynamic clusters of business and research institutions that spread growth and share knowledge through places. Their successes are felt by the whole nation. When they win, everyone wins.

There are strong interdependencies across the IS-8 sectors. Defence, clean energy and advanced manufacturing can help develop and scale dual-use technologies. The digital and technologies sector drives innovation across the wider economy. Financial services unlock investment and professional and business services support the adoption, commercialisation and diffusion of these innovations across sectors.

Businesses, trade unions, local government and academia told us that what was most needed from the UK government was a consistent, coherent long-term plan that made clear choices. A plan that builds a partnership between national government, local authorities and business, and that addresses the hurdles and uncertainties hampering investment. Too often businesses had been left to navigate the obstacles alone, while star companies moved abroad and communities saw jobs and opportunities pass them by.

Twelve months in, the Industrial Strategy is starting to give businesses certainty and confidence, with joined-up decisions and faster action on infrastructure, planning decisions, energy support, skills gaps, regulatory burdens, the capital for innovative companies, and how government backs UK firms to compete and export globally.

From the outset, the Industrial Strategy has recognised the need to strengthen business confidence and investment in an unpredictable world. It has made deliberate decisions to back sectors with high growth and potential across the country.

This is already translating into opportunities across the country, creating thousands of secure, well-paid jobs and renewing communities in every region.

In year one, we have:

- Attracted more than £380bn of private sector commitments to high-growth sectors, supporting over 155,000 jobs in sectors and supply chains across the country. Perceptions of the UK's attractiveness to Foreign Direct Investment have rebounded, returning it to joint second in Europe (with Germany) in 2026.
- Supported small businesses, innovators and entrepreneurs with increasing access to growth capital, with the expansion of multi-billion-pound public finance initiatives and new pension fund reforms.
- Cut electricity bills by reducing network charges by 90% for the most energy intensive users, with 10,000 more firms set to benefit from an average 25% discount from next year.
- Introduced new laws to overhaul planning regulations, accelerating decisions on infrastructure projects across rail, water, nuclear and aviation, and measures to ensure smaller companies in supply chains get paid on time.
- Over 750,000 users have accessed business.gov.uk, the government's new website for business support, launched as part of the Business Growth Service.
- Supported faster electricity grid connections, advancing priority investment projects worth £8.5bn.
- Ensured the UK is the leading destination for venture capital in Europe, capturing a record 48% of European VC funding so far in 2026, the highest rate in 16 years.
- Set out major packages of sector commitments across the North of England and Oxford to Cambridge growth corridor, supported by improved transport connections.
- Allocated £9bn for cutting edge research and commercialisation of new technologies to create new companies and support frontier IS-8 sectors, such as British firms developing AI hardware, and a new £500m Sovereign AI Fund.
- Committed over £1bn to train people with the skills to work in key industries – including 29 Technical Excellence Colleges to serve over 100,000 students, and launched a nationwide push to upskill 10m workers in AI by 2030.
- Signed three new trade deals with India, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and South Korea; collectively expected to boost UK GDP by billions of pounds in the long run.

Delivery is moving at pace, but there is more to do. The current geopolitical challenges make the Industrial Strategy even more urgent, and the impact of interventions needs to be felt by businesses and their workers, from reducing energy bills and red tape wrangles, to improving skills. Over the next year, the government will cut industrial energy costs further, roll out jobs plans for each growth sector, bring forward new investment-ready strategic sites across the country, and strip back unnecessary administrative costs to business.

And in a more volatile and unpredictable world, it means British industry defending the UK's national interest. In the face of heightened geopolitical uncertainties, with increasing pressures on energy and global networks, businesses need resilient supply chains and access to critical inputs. Recent actions include providing £350m to keep the UK's chemicals industry competitive and legislating to nationalise British Steel.

We must anticipate risk, protect core capabilities, and invest in industries that support national security and technological leadership, such as recent equity stakes in ventures like Oxford Quantum Circuits and Rowden. Defence is key to this, and the government is seizing the opportunity, ensuring the £298bn Defence Investment Plan is a critical intervention not only for security but growth, innovation, and scale-up opportunities for UK businesses throughout the UK.

The Industrial Strategy is committed to realising the strengths and talents of all parts of the country – from Greater Manchester's advanced materials, Leeds' fintech Northern Square Mile and Dundee's gaming expertise to South Wales' compound semiconductor cluster, Cambridge's life sciences campus, London's AI quarter and Birmingham and Coventry's automotive powerhouse – because these are the industries, the innovators and the communities that make Britain great.

Looking Ahead

The Industrial Strategy will accelerate delivery in year two, opening up new opportunities, while managing geopolitical challenges, to drive a more prosperous and resilient economy across the UK. This includes:

2026

- **Regulation:** Introduce the Regulating for Growth Bill in November 2026.
- **Sites and infrastructure:** Launch the Strategic Sites Accelerator.
- **Clean energy pipeline:** Award initial funding through Energy Engineered in the UK and launch Allocation Round 8.
- **Digital and tech:** Launch the tender for the new National Supercomputer at the University of Edinburgh.
- **Skills:** Publish further sector Jobs Plans driving direct partnerships with business, trade unions, and local partners.
- **Creative industries:** Launch National Centre for Arts and Music Education and Creative Clusters.

2027

- **Energy costs:** Roll out the British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme, cutting electricity costs for ~10,000 firms by ~25%.
- **Infrastructure delivery:** New AI Growth zones and first SSA investments, opening up major opportunities for new business deals.

2028

- **Energy cost reform:** Remove Carbon Price Support (April 2028).
- **Small Business growth:** Procurement and payment reforms will drive £7.4bn/year to SMEs and increase defence SME spend, improving cash flow, access to contracts and scaling opportunities.

2029 - early 2030s

- **Clean Energy advancement:** Two Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage Clusters to be online.

By 2035

- **Long-term growth:** 1.5m more jobs in roles key for the Industrial Strategy, and strengthened global IS-8 sector positions, supporting deeper talent pools, stronger supply chains and sustained market opportunities for UK businesses.

This was the year …

over
150,000
jobs supported

over
£35bn
exports supported

£599m
for Rolls-Royce Small Modular Reactors, powerful enough to supply around a million of today's homes.

over
£380bn
investments committed

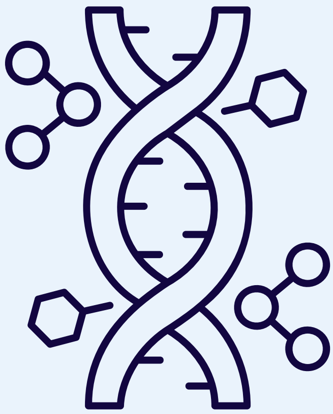
up to
£45bn
in Northern Powerhouse Rail for faster and more frequent rail across the North

133
trade barriers
removed, creating £13bn potential additional exports to UK businesses over 5 years

Doubled Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor funding to
£800m
to build new homes, labs and workspaces

1.7m
AI Skills Boost courses delivered in partnership with industry, backed by £27m funding

Life Sciences Innovative Manufacturing Fund has unlocked
£843m
of private investment, creating 487 jobs and safeguarding a further 1,330



Port of Tyne's
£150m
230-acre redevelopment project (equivalent to the size of 130 World Cup football pitches) will create potential for 12,000 jobs in Advanced Manufacturing and Clean Energy Industries.

Driving growth across the United Kingdom

Working in partnership with mayors, devolved governments and local leaders, government is removing the barriers holding back city regions, clusters and growth corridors – helping to build a more connected, higher-wage economy, where businesses can grow and people can access good jobs and opportunities where they live.

Clusters and Corridors

- The Northern Growth Strategy is expanding the **Northern Growth Corridor** and wider North, from Liverpool to the North Sea, as part of the Northern Growth Strategy. This is connecting communities to opportunities, by allocating up to £45bn for Northern Powerhouse Rail and £10.4bn in Transport for City Regions funding, alongside £1.7bn of City Investment Funds.
- There have been **major IS-8 investments** such as a £51m National Cryogenics Facility at Sci-Tech Daresbury, and the government is working with northern Mayors and local leaders to provide exciting opportunities for investors.
- In the **Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor**, the government has committed £800m for land acquisition and infrastructure, set up the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation and showcased the Corridor's IS-8 opportunities. This has already helped unlock private investments including £10bn from the Ellison Institute of Technology in Oxfordshire, and the multi-billion-pound expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and Universal United Kingdom Resort in Bedford.
- The **Edinburgh-Glasgow Central Belt** is one of Europe's most dynamic and innovative clusters for science and technology. UK Research and Innovation has backed the Edinburgh Supercomputer with up to £750m, putting Scotland at the heart of the next great industrial leap through AI and technology. The Ministry of Defence has announced the £50m Scotland Defence Growth Deal, meaning Scotland will benefit from its share of the estimated 50,000 additional defence jobs needed across the UK by 2034/35.

Local leaders and national government are making the UK the best place to invest in, bringing forward investment-ready sites at pace.

- **13 Local Growth Plans** published, setting out 10-year economic visions and investment pipelines for each region.
- **22 Industrial Strategy Zones** are attracting major investments across the UK – like the £600m sustainable aviation fuel facility announced by LanzaTech at the Humber Freeport, expected to produce 80,000 tonnes of fuel every year.
- **£500m Local Innovation Partnerships Fund** launched, supporting local leaders in 17 strategic locations across the UK to attract private funding and create critical jobs. This includes £50m for Glasgow City Region, £30m for Cardiff Capital Region, and £30m for the Belfast and Derry/Londonderry corridor. Mayors of established Mayoral Strategic Authorities will be given greater control of future Local Innovation Partnerships Fund investment in their areas after the next Spending Review.
- The **National Wealth Fund's four Strategic Partnerships with Glasgow City Region, West Yorkshire Combined Authority, West Midlands Combined Authority and Greater Manchester Combined Authority are operational**, and the British Business Bank has strengthened its place offer, including allocating an additional £100m capital to regional funds, committing £150m to northern clusters, and establishing a new Local Growth Network of investment and banking professionals across all nations and regions.
- We have made **catalytic investments via Sector Plans**, including the £150m Creative Places Growth Fund to help creative businesses and freelancers in five city regions outside of London flourish, and £100m in funding to build up electric vehicle manufacturing supply chains in the West Midlands and North East.
- £500m from the **Mayoral Revolving Growth Fund** and £2.3bn in City Investment Funds to specific Mayoral Strategic Authorities to provide high-quality commercial space through projects like Liverpool Knowledge Quarter and Sheffield Innovation Spine.
- The **Strategic Sites Accelerator,** which will bring forward more investible sites to market, has appointed CBRE as its National Delivery Partner. The programme is aiming to go live in the coming months, with details set out on the investment strategy, further opportunities for places and site developers to express interest, and decisions on support for a first wave of sites.
- Businesses are following this with major investments, such as Vestas' €250m nacelle factory in Scotland, Woodbourne Group's £400m investment in the Birmingham Knowledge Quarter, Convatec's new £500m Manchester R&D Hub, and AstraZeneca's £300m investment in Cambridge and Macclesfield.

Scotland

Scotland is at the heart of the UK's clean energy industries transition with a research, tech, and innovation base underpinning strengths across the IS-8.

- The UK government is supporting growth across the Central Belt, building on Glasgow and Edinburgh's IS-8 strengths. This includes up to **£750m for the UK's largest supercomputer** at the University of Edinburgh. The **Lanarkshire AI Growth Zone** is supporting more than 3,400 high quality jobs and has attracted £8.2bn private investment.
- Glasgow's **Local Innovation Partnerships Fund** is investing £50m into the innovation and infrastructure in the city's already thriving life sciences cluster. The fund has also committed £20m for Dundee's innovative videogames cluster and wider creative technology innovators.
- £50m **Defence Growth Deal** for Scotland announced, including £5m each for innovation centres on the Clyde and in Rosyth. This will grow an already booming industry in Scotland that helped land our £10bn Norway frigate deal that is set to support more than 2,000 jobs in Glasgow's shipyards.
- £62m corporate loan from the National Wealth Fund to **Orkney Islands Council** to generate clean energy for export to the mainland, and an £800m guarantee to support SSEN Transmission deliver four major grid upgrade projects in the north of Scotland. This is in addition to a further **£17m to Aberdeen's Energy Transition Zone.** Industrial Strategy Zones are also enabling key private investments, such as Sumitomo's £350m subsea cable factory in the Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport.

Case study: UK public investment in Pentland

The National Wealth Fund, Aberdeen-based Great British Energy and Scottish National Investment Bank each have the option of investing up to £50m to develop the 92.5MW Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm in the Highlands, a priority Industrial Strategy cluster. The project will unlock supply chain opportunities across Scottish and UK ports and support the local workforce too, from school scholarships for STEM studies to over 1,000 new jobs created in construction and operations.

Using five high-capacity turbines in deep waters, the project demonstrates the viability of floating wind in areas unsuitable for fixed installations while addressing key technical and commercial barriers to scale. Pentland supports the UK's Clean Power 2030 mission and highlights how public investment can de-risk innovation, mobilise private capital, and accelerate the transition from oil and gas.

Alongside Pentland, the Inverness & Cromarty Firth Green Freeport is establishing the Highlands as a major international hub for the offshore wind and renewable energy sector. Delivered in partnership with the Scottish Government and Highland Council, the Green Freeport is supported by £25m of UK Government investment. Over the next 25 years, it is poised to create more than 11,000 long-term jobs in the Highlands and a workforce equipped with future-ready skills. This includes those delivered by Aurora Energy Services' new £1.2m training facility in Inverness, which will train more than 2,000 workers for the renewables sector every year, ensuring local communities benefit from our generational Net Zero opportunity.

Wales

Wales is transforming longstanding industrial capability into future economic strength combining infrastructure, innovation, and skills to strengthen the UK's resilience, security, and growth.

- Wylfa, Anglesey, selected to host the **UK's first Small Modular Reactors**. It will create over 3,000 local jobs, strengthen the UK's energy security, and create a long-term industrial programme, all supported by a £2.5bn investment.
- A **£64m investment in Port Talbot** will improve infrastructure and prepare for floating offshore technologies that will help unlock 5,000 new jobs and at least 4.5GW of floating offshore wind in the Celtic Sea. In the first Hydrogen Allocation Round, over 700 jobs are expected to be created across the UK, including South Wales.
- £20m awarded through the **Local Innovation Partnerships Fund** in South West Wales to support two clusters, building on Wales's circular economy, boosting supply-chain resilience and increasing energy security.
- A new centre for **doctoral training in semiconductors**, led by Swansea University, will open in South Wales, developing critical technologies for clean energy, transport, and defence. Delivered by Cardiff Capital Region, the **Local Innovation Partnerships Fund** will dedicate £30m to support place-based regional development in the compound semiconductor and creative industry sectors. An additional £10m for the South Wales semiconductor cluster focuses on technologies critical to AI and data centres.
- £50m **Wales Defence Growth Deal launched** to boost defence innovation, jobs and skills, particularly in autonomous systems.

Case study: Port Talbot infrastructure investment

Port Talbot is transforming into a major floating offshore wind hub, creating high-quality jobs in Wales. Up to £64m for the port will support the development of port infrastructure needed to serve the Celtic Sea's emerging floating offshore wind industry, helping secure Port Talbot's place at the forefront of the UK's clean energy future.

The investment reflects the Industrial Strategy's focus on tilting government support towards the IS-8 growth-driving sectors and the places and clusters with the greatest potential to deliver long-term prosperity. By strengthening this strategic industrial site with significant existing capabilities, the government is helping to unlock at least 4.5GW of floating offshore wind capacity in the Celtic Sea – enough to power around 6.5m homes. The project is expected to crowd in more than £500m of private investment and support up to 5,000 jobs across Port Talbot and South Wales.

The commitment is part of a broader programme for Wales within the Industrial Strategy. This includes the selection of Wylfa to host the UK's first small modular nuclear reactors, supporting 3,000 new, good, jobs in the local economy. Local Innovation Partnerships Funds will also strengthen South Wales's world-class compound semiconductor supply chain and support Welsh creative, clean energy and circular material clusters. This work demonstrates how we are working in partnership with business to build long-term industrial capability, strengthen energy security, develop resilient supply chains and ensure the benefits of economic growth are felt across Wales.

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland's industrial heritage and future-ready workforce is driving innovation and investment in a globally competitive high-tech hub bridging Great Britain and the EU.

- **Enhanced Investment Zone established across the whole of Northern Ireland**. Delivered in partnership with the Northern Ireland Executive it is designed to accelerate investment, productivity and economic growth in Advanced Manufacturing. Running to March 2035, over £150m has been committed over 10 years to support agreed interventions, tailored to photonics and biotechnology.
- **£30m Local Innovation Partnerships Fund** launched across Belfast and Derry/Londonderry to develop two linked digital clusters: one for life sciences and pharmaceuticals development, and another in green transport.
- **£50m Defence Growth Deal for Northern Ireland** launched, focused on supporting SMEs developing dual-use defence/civil technology in Northern Ireland.
- **Strengthened Northern Ireland's life sciences ecosystem to attract and scale investment**, underpinned by a £42m Centre for Digital Healthcare Technology in Belfast, the forthcoming £64m iREACH Health clinical research centre, and a new Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) hub enabling direct regulatory engagement for innovative firms.
- **£16.6m funding announced for a new One Stop Shop to help businesses navigate the Windsor Framework** and take advantage of their access to UK and EU markets.

Case study: Seagate NI

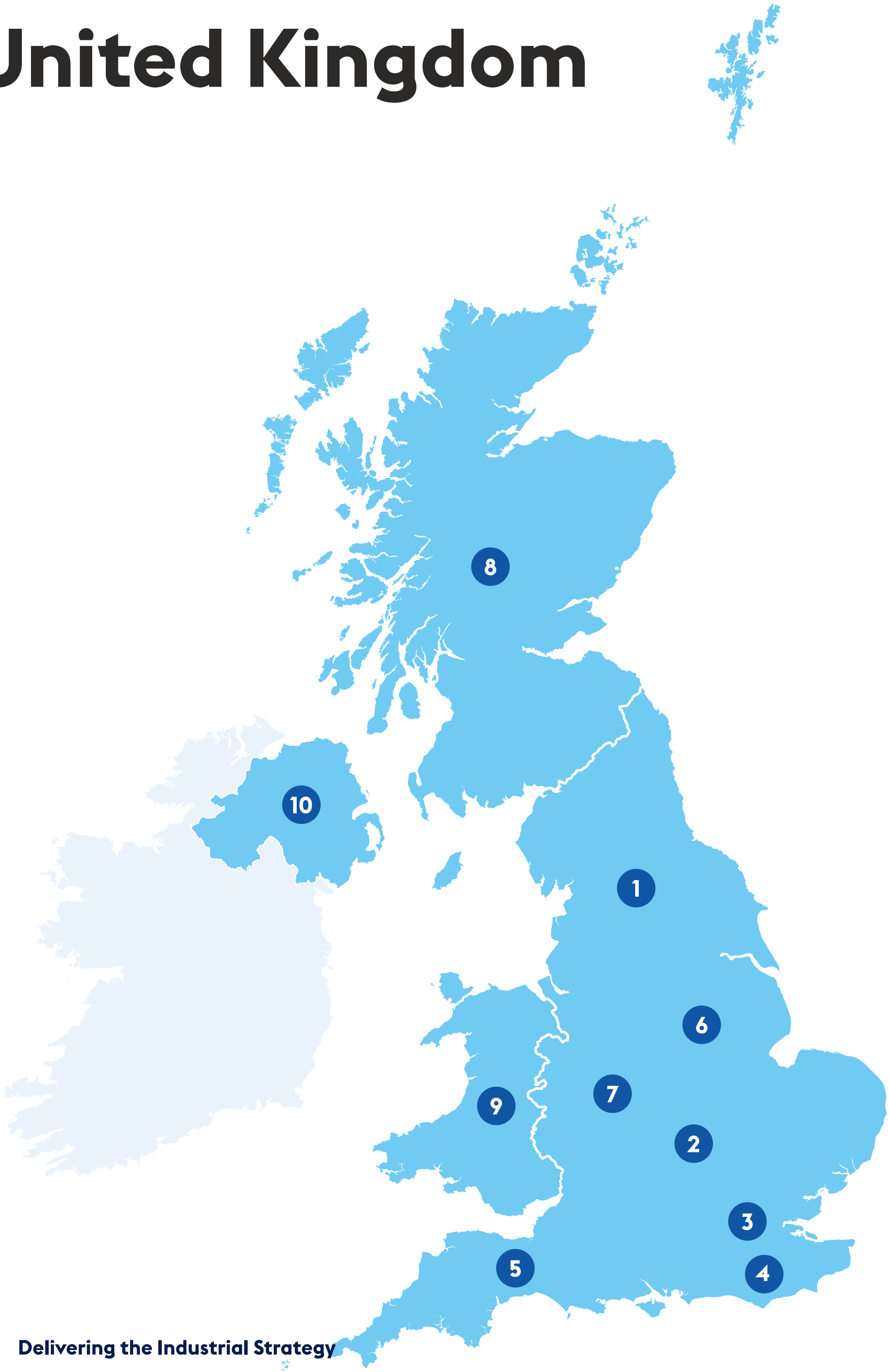
Seagate Technology Holdings plc, a leading innovator of mass-capacity data storage, has announced an extension of their long-standing relationship with Invest Northern Ireland breakthrough nano-photonic innovation. Seagate's investment of £100m for this 5-year project unlocked an additional £15m grant from Invest NI, boosting Derry/Londonderry's local economy and enabling Seagate to develop further its innovative Mozaic technology.

To meet rising global demand for data storage capacity, driven by hyperscale data centres and the growth of AI – as recognised in the UK's AI Hardware Plan – Seagate is developing state-of-the-art hard drives that can achieve industry-leading data capacities. This investment will support the next generation of hard drive innovation and research and development at Seagate's Derry/Londonderry site.

"Our Northern Ireland facility is a global centre of excellence, producing over a quarter of the world's recording heads and pioneering semiconductor laser R&D – critical for next-generation hard drives. With Invest NI's support, we're accelerating the development of 60 TB and beyond capacities, laying the foundation for achieving 100 TB drives. This project will expand our global engineering expertise and reinforce our long-standing commitment to innovation in Northern Ireland."

John Morris, CTO of Seagate Technology

Driving growth across the whole of the United Kingdom



1 NORTHERN GROWTH CORRIDOR AND WIDER NORTH

Northern Growth Strategy, including £45bn for Northern Powerhouse Rail, £10.4bn Transport for City Regions funding, major IS-8 investments, and new Great North Investment Prospectus.

2 OXFORD TO CAMBRIDGE GROWTH CORRIDOR

New homes, labs, and workspaces unlocked through £800m funding, a new Development Corporation for Greater Cambridge, delivery of East West Rail, and investment in world-class R&D strengths.

3 LONDON

London's innovation districts are global destinations for Digital & Technologies and Life Sciences, attracting major investments from Anthropic, Boehringer Ingelheim, and more.

4 SOUTH EAST

Major private investments such as UKRSPECSYSTEMS new £200m facility at Freeport East and UCB's £500m investment in R&D and manufacturing in Surrey.

5 SOUTH WEST

Driving industrial transformation through a £380m investment in the Agratas gigafactory in Somerset, Aerospace Technology Institute investments in the West of England, a £50m Defence Growth Deal in Plymouth, and the National Wealth Fund's £25m investment in Rowden.

6 EAST MIDLANDS

Major private investments such as Ukrspecsystem's new £200m facility at Freeport East and UCB's £500m investment in R&D and manufacturing in Surrey. Driving clean, resilient growth through the West Burton STEP site, Local Innovation Partnerships Fund awards for Greater Lincolnshire and the East Midlands CCA area, and Defence Technical Excellence College status for Lincoln College.

7 WEST MIDLANDS

Securing the next generation of manufacturing and engineering capabilities through a £50m DRIVE35 EV cluster pilot and two Technical Excellence Colleges, and accelerating urban development through City Investment Funds and the Mayoral Revolving Growth Fund.

8 SCOTLAND

Supporting Scotland's role as a global powerhouse in Clean Energy Industries and tech and innovation, including through a £50m Defence Growth Deal, £750m Edinburgh supercomputer, and £70m from the Local Innovation Partnerships Fund.

9 WALES

Turning industrial capability into future economic strength through £64m for the Port Talbot offshore wind hub, two AI Growth Zones, deploying the first nuclear Small Modular Reactors in Anglesey, and over £10m investment in South Wales's world-class Compound Semiconductor cluster, up to £50m through the Local Innovation Partnership fund, a £14bn long term plan for Welsh rail and a £50m defence growth deal.

10 NORTHERN IRELAND

Fostering a globally competitive hub for high-tech innovation, including a £150m Enhanced Investment Zone, £30m award from the Local Innovation Partnerships Fund, and £50m Defence Growth Deal.

Taking action to encourage investment

The Modern Industrial Strategy is reforming the business environment to make it easier and quicker to invest in the UK, and in turn increasing growth and creating high-quality jobs.

Lowering energy costs and accelerating grid connections

The Industrial Strategy is committed to making the UK more competitive by reducing energy costs and speeding up grid connections. High industrial electricity costs and long waits for connections are major barriers to investment in the UK, driving inflation and increasing the cost of living. This has worsened with price volatility, driven by our dependence on fossil fuels, and has limited the growth benefits of electrification.

- From 2027, the **British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme** (BICS) will cut electricity costs by up to £40/MWh, around a quarter off bills for eligible manufacturers. The scheme has also been widened to support more than 10,000 firms, as well as an additional payment in 2027 to reflect support businesses would have received had the scheme been in operation earlier. The government is also supporting for a comparable scheme in Northern Ireland, subject to business case development.
- **Bringing energy costs down** through targeted support for the most electricity-intensive industries through the British Industry Supercharger. The Network Charging Compensation scheme is now live, providing 90% relief for network charges and brings total support of £78/MWh.
- **Simplifying the tax and carbon pricing system** by removing Carbon Price Support from April 2028, helping offset the costs to all billpayers of BICS.
- **Accelerating grid connections** by reordering the entire connections queue, prioritising projects based on readiness and what is needed for generation and storage by 2030, and deprioritising 300GW of excess capacity. The Connections Accelerator Service has worked with network companies to secure and safeguard up to £8.5bn of investment across priority sectors. New powers in the Planning and Infrastructure Act will help to expedite a suite of demand-side reforms to reduce waiting times over the next year.

Enhancing skills and accelerating access to talent

The Industrial Strategy is creating good jobs for people across the UK and investing in their potential. Businesses told us key skills shortages were constraining investment and productivity in the UK's growth-driving industries. Employer investment in training lags international comparators, and industry highlighted that the skills system lacked the flexibility to build a modern workforce with the right mix of AI, digital and technical skills.

With forecasts showing an additional 1.5m workers needed in key roles across the IS-8 and construction over the next decade, skills are being transformed across the Industrial Strategy.

- **Over 100,000 people to benefit from 29 Technical Excellence Colleges, as part of over £1bn invested in skills packages across defence, construction, engineering, and digital.** These packages also include creation of up to 2,500 student places in defence-focused university and college courses from Newcastle to Exeter and £47m for mayors to drive adult engineering skills.
- **Almost one million young people will be supported by a £2.5bn youth employment package**, including support rolled out for employers to take on apprentices. New V Level post-GCSE qualifications launched and first ten Apprenticeship Units introduced, giving employers shorter, more flexible training options to upskill staff.
- **Direct partnerships with business, trade unions, and local partners** to identify practical actions on skills, recruitment, pay and conditions. This will be reflected in new sector-specific Jobs Plans, building on publication of the Clean Energy Jobs Plan.
- AI and tech skills to be scaled up with **400,000 students from disadvantaged schools supported to take up AI and tech skills** through TechFirst. **Nationwide AI bootcamps** to be rolled out this summer to provide young people with a pathway to work, with pilots across Wigan, Blackpool, Oldham, Blackburn and Lancashire. Early Careers Jobs Alliance launched.
- **Global Talent Taskforce – a concierge service for elite talent – has been launched**, alongside a £54m fund to recruit world-class researchers, and changes implemented to visa routes to ensure the UK continues to attract highly skilled talent. **Visa fees reimbursement scheme now launched** for UK scale-ups in digital and tech, life sciences and clean energy, and a new Office for Investment fast-track visa sponsor licence referral route for IS-8 firms expanding into the UK.
- **Temporary Shortage List introduced**, giving firms visa access to key below-degree skills in occupations crucial for the Industrial Strategy and critical infrastructure while the domestic pipeline grows.

Removing planning barriers and accelerating infrastructure

By creating a faster, more certain planning regime, the Industrial Strategy is accelerating infrastructure delivery, unlocking investment and supporting growth across the UK. Businesses told us that planning delays and infrastructure constraints – especially grid connections and project approvals – are key barriers to investment. They called for a faster, more predictable planning system and accelerated delivery of infrastructure to unlock growth.

The government is acting to make it faster, cheaper, and more predictable to build in the UK.

- **Reforms to judicial review made for nationally significant infrastructure projects**, including wind and nuclear clean energy projects. Claimants have just one attempt to challenge a development consent decision for claims deemed without merit, rather than three.
- **Planning and Infrastructure Act (2025) introduced, expected to boost the economy by up to £7.5bn** over the next decade. Pre-application consultation requirements for major infrastructure projects scrapped, cutting delivery timelines by 12 months on average, and saving developers up to £1bn during this Parliament.
- Major projects approved, including **Gatwick Airport's estimated £2.2bn second runway application**, supporting up to 14,000 jobs and over £1bn for the regional economy. Up to £14bn to **transform rail infrastructure in Wales**, including seven new stations, with work starting this year supporting 6,000 jobs.
- **10-Year Infrastructure Strategy published, funding at least £725bn for infrastructure over the next decade**. UK Infrastructure Pipeline published by new National Infrastructure and Service Transformation Authority (NISTA), detailing 734 planned projects covering £718bn private and public sector investment as of March 2026.

Expanding access to finance

The Industrial Strategy is helping innovative, high potential firms get the growth capital to allow them to scale in the UK. Businesses told us they face significant challenges accessing finance, with a complex, risk-averse funding landscape, and regional disparities. Firms saw public finance institutions as important, but not yet sufficient.

Over the past year, those institutions have targeted viable UK businesses with support to start, scale and stay in the UK, crowding in private capital where it can have the greatest impact. **They have deployed more than £16.8bn in support of Industrial Strategy sectors** and further embedded within regional ecosystems to support priority places.

- **The British Business Bank has committed £2.9bn in the last 12 months and with an additional £4bn to scale businesses in the IS-8, has made record commitments into priority sectors.** This includes £25m into Wayve, £40m into Quantum Motion, £25m into Kraken, £100m into the life sciences fund Apposite and a landmark **£150m cornerstone commitment** to Playground Global's new UK-focused deep-tech fund. The Bank has catalysed finance into UK film and TV with a working capital facility for the specialist non-bank lender Allegro Finance.
- **The National Wealth Fund has committed £2.9bn to support 21 projects, mobilising a further £2.1bn in private investment since the launch of the Industrial Strategy.** Its investments include the Pentland FLOW project in northern Scotland, scaling Rowden Engineering's defence tech in Bristol, and supporting the UK's largest energy storage facility in Doncaster.
- **UK Export Finance has deployed over £11bn to further UK exports** since the launch of the Industrial Strategy, and expanded its capacity to support UK business to £130bn. This includes £128m in finance to enable the export of British-made submarine

rescue vehicles to the Indonesian Navy, injecting £67m into the British economy and supporting UK jobs from Bristol to York in the maritime and defence sectors.

This complements further reforms **to ensure UK capital markets and domestic investors support growth**. This includes passing the Pension Schemes Act, which will consolidate a fragmented pensions landscape into fewer, larger funds capable of investing more effectively.

These measures are yielding results. UK companies raised £7.2bn from venture capital firms in the first quarter of 2026, 56% more than the same period in 2025. This includes three UK megadeals – £1.48bn for AI company Nscale, £1.1bn for autonomous driving firm Wayve and £744m for energy management platform Kraken. In this year through to May, the UK has captured a record 48% of European VC funding, the highest in 16 years.

Private capital investment in UK businesses reached £25bn last year, with over 1,400 businesses receiving support, 90% of which were small or medium sized (less than 250 employees) and 57% outside of London. There were 16 new Unicorns (a privately held start up reaching a valuation of $1bn) created in the UK – taking the total to over 200 total unicorns, and the third country globally (after the US and China) to reach that milestone.

Helping SMEs and Scale-ups to grow in the UK

The Industrial Strategy is unlocking the potential of smaller businesses and scale-ups across the country and enabling high growth firms to access the support they need from Government. Businesses told us that the UK struggles to turn start-ups into firms that stay and grow here, pointing to constraints including access to capital, skills, talent, regulation, market access and a fragmented support landscape. They also highlighted weak market dynamism, with too few firms able to compete with incumbents.

The government is making it easier for firms to start, grow and scale, reducing friction and targeting support where it has most impact.

- **Late payments being tackled**, with the biggest reform in over 25 years via the Commercial Payments Bill. This includes introducing a stronger 60-day cap on payment terms to small suppliers and increased powers for the Small Business Commissioner.
- The new **Business Growth Service** is the UK's trusted entry point for business support – a nationally consistent, digital-first service that makes it easy for businesses to access the right help at the right time – with over 750,000 users in the first year business.gov.uk. Additionally, almost 12,000 SME leaders have now been supported through the *Help to Grow: Management* programme.
- **Scale-up Concierge Service** launched, providing tailored support and problem-solving across government for the UK's highest growth scale-ups. A tender for the service will support the emerging pipeline of scale-ups earlier in their growth journey. This complements **tax changes** to enable scale ups to attract more capital and talent as they grow.
- **Small Business Regulatory Taskforce** established to work with businesses, regulators, and stakeholders to develop practical, evidence-based recommendations to reduce regulatory and administrative burdens

on SMEs. Co-chaired by Tina McKenzie, they will publish a report in Autumn with further recommendations.

Reducing regulatory burdens

The Industrial Strategy is ensuring that regulation and regulators support growth and innovation by being more focused, proportionate, transparent and agile, and by prioritising reforms in frontier industries. Business told us that regulation had become too complex, uncertain and risk averse, raising the cost of doing business and developing innovative technology.

More than £2bn of net savings in administrative costs have been identified by the government in the last year, as the first step in cutting the annual burden by 25% – worth £5.6bn to businesses – by the end of the Parliament. This includes measures through the Modernising Corporate Reporting programme expected to save UK businesses around £230m per year in reporting costs, reforms to the planning and infrastructure system, and enabling digital identity verification services delivering £496m per year in business savings.

- **Regulatory experimentation** supported in advanced manufacturing, life sciences and space, such as the Medicine & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency's AI-assisted assessments for medicines and devices.
- **Regulatory Innovation Office engaged over 140 firms on regulatory challenges**, launched a new 'front door' for business input, and deployed £11.5m to identify better regulation, resulting in faster approvals and greater clarity for businesses bringing new technologies to market.
- **Approval timelines cut by up to six months in life sciences** as part of interventions targeted at specific sectors. Work is also underway to increase regulatory clarity in farming, simplify time-consuming registration processes, and to support the adoption of agri-tech. In the space sector, clearer guidance and more flexible regulation is helping UK space missions launch faster and with confidence.
- **UK's competition regime sharpened** in line with the Government's strategic steer, to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA). The CMA is delivering faster, improving its processes and providing clearer engagement opportunities for business. The Government also consulted on reforms to provide greater certainty on merger control, market remedies and decision-making in competition investigations.
- **Regulating for Growth Bill,** confirmed in the King's Speech, will go further to enable faster innovation by introducing cross-sector sandbox powers. This includes supporting the UK's maritime autonomy sector through a **statutory regulatory sandbox**, enabling rapid, real-world innovation while generating robust evidence on safety and security, and supporting a clear pathway to scale.

Streamlining and harnessing procurement

The Industrial Strategy is working to make it easier for businesses to win public contracts and grow, unlocking investment, innovation and jobs across the UK. Business told us that government procurement was too difficult for smaller firms to access at scale. Firms wanted to be engaged earlier in the process and for procurement to actively shape markets, providing the clearer demand signals that unlock private investment.

As a result, **public procurement, worth £400bn annually, is being used more strategically to drive growth**, strengthen supply chains, and support innovative firms to scale in the UK.

- Small and medium-sized businesses are getting more than half of contracts (as of May 2026), equivalent to almost a third of total contract value. This is thanks to the **Procurement Act 2023**, which overhauls public sectors purchasing to make processes simpler, more transparent, and more accessible.
- Commitment to new **SME direct spend targets** under new procurement rules, which are expected to see over £7.4bn annually flow to SMEs by 2028 and the Ministry of Defence pledging to increase its direct and indirect SME spend by £2.5bn to £7.5bn by May 2028.
- New package of public procurement **measures announced to support British jobs and skills**, including requirements on major contracts (≥£5m) to include social value criteria on jobs and training.
- Expanded use of **Advance Market Commitments**, with government acting as an early buyer and market shaper for new technologies. The first wave includes up to £50m for novel AI inference chips, followed by clean concrete, backed by industry.
- Launched **new procurement guidance to protect national security** and strengthen supply chain resilience in critical sectors.

Supporting growth through the tax system

The government recognises the importance to the Industrial Strategy of a stable and predictable tax environment to provide the confidence needed to encourage investment, innovation, and growth over the long term, while supporting competitiveness and ensuring that UK companies can access the capital they need to expand.

Government has made targeted tax changes to support investment, innovation, and growth.

- **Corporate Tax Roadmap** is providing certainty to business over the course of the Parliament, maintaining the core features of the UK's competitive Corporation Tax environment: the generous regime of Full Expensing for plant and machinery investments, a competitive R&D tax offer supporting around £56bn of business R&D by 2029-30, the Patent Box, and the lowest headline corporation tax rate in the G7.
- New **Advance Tax Certainty Scheme** will give major investment projects binding certainty on their tax position upfront.
- Government has **doubled the eligibility for the UK's leading Venture Capital Schemes and Enterprise Management Incentives.** These changes enable scale ups to attract more capital and talent as they grow.
- **New UK Listings Relief** introduced to encourage domestic listings, exempting newly listed companies' shares from Stamp Duty Reserve Tax for the first three years after listing on a UK market.

Driving and supporting innovation

The Industrial Strategy mobilises strategic pull-through of innovation across the economy, building on the UK's world-leading universities and research base, creating quality jobs and improving living standards. Business told us that innovation is being created, but not consistently commercialised or scaled in the UK, with technology adoption especially uneven across firms. They highlighted barriers including finance, skills, regulation, risk and fragmented support, especially for SMEs, limiting the translation of innovation into productivity, investment and growth.

As a result, government has been backing firms taking risks at the frontiers of their industry, with a **record £86bn in the Spending Review to support R&D in the UK's fastest growing sectors**. Reforms to UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) – the public body that directs research and innovation funding for the Government – will better deliver on its mission to advance knowledge, improve lives, and drive growth as set out in their forthcoming strategy.

- UKRI has pivoted its programmes and funding towards the IS-8 and the city regions and clusters where they are concentrated, **investing £9bn into Industrial Strategy sectors** over the Spending Review period, including £4.5bn for innovative UK firms. This funding has been available since April 2026, with around £1bn of investment open to businesses across the IS-8 sectors this year.
- Focused on new ideas that can improve lives, strengthen public services and support the economy, the **Research and Development Missions Accelerator Programme** is backed by £500m. Since 2025/26, the programme has launched 11 challenges, delivering projects supporting the IS-8. The programme is forecast to crowd in a further £1.5bn from industry and third sector.

Case Study: Biomedical Catalyst

The Biomedical Catalyst (BMC) is Innovate UK's flagship funding programme supporting smaller businesses in the UK to develop and commercialise innovative life sciences products. In 2025, the BMC provided £18m in industry-led R&D funding to support projects involving 41 UK SMEs.

One notable example is Re-Vana Therapeutics, a Queen's University Belfast spin-out, specialising in drug delivery technologies for severe retinal diseases that cause blindness. Re-Vana has signed a landmark licensing agreement – valued at up to £744m – with Boehringer Ingelheim and recently relocated to an 8,000 sq. ft. purpose-built laboratory in Belfast Titanic Quarter, demonstrating the strong commercial potential of Innovate UK-supported research and the opportunities in Northern Ireland's life sciences sector.

Capitalising on the value of data

The Industrial Strategy is committed to ensuring the UK harnesses data as an asset that underpins innovation and enables better products and services for people across the UK. Businesses told us data is an underused asset fundamental to growth, including AI adoption. To maximise its economic potential, they stressed the need not only to improve access, but to measure value and secure appropriate returns.

The government is making it easier for businesses to access and use data, unlocking innovation, reducing costs, and supporting growth including through more efficient operations, better decision-making, and new revenue streams.

- Enabling user-consented data sharing across sectors including energy, property, digital markets, and financial services through the new **Smart Data Strategy**. Use cases enabled by Smart Data regulations could support switching, lower costs, and new business models such as Smart Data Challenge winner Moverly, reducing the average time for buying a house from 22 weeks to 12, saving people thousands of pounds.
- **National Data Library launched** as a single trusted gateway, bringing together curated, high-quality public-sector data assets and resources to address challenges at a national level. Five kickstarter projects launched, including work to support businesses with AI-powered legal guidance from the National Archives.
- **Creative Content Exchange pilot launched** with 10 organisations and Harbr Data appointed delivery partner to create a trusted marketplace for selling, buying, licensing and enabling permitted access to digitised cultural and creative assets. This is informing the UK's approach to commercial data exchanges and £12m investment in data sharing infrastructure.

Case study: AMTEC Technical Excellence College

The North East's shift into high value growth areas, including space, robotics, advanced materials and precision engineering, is exemplified by New College Durham's work through the Advanced Manufacturing Technical Excellence College's (AMTEC) programme.

Working with regional employers, the college will deliver a wide range of industry-led courses in advanced manufacturing, digital technologies, automation and engineering, supporting an estimated 1000 students over the next four years. This will equip them for jobs across established sectors and the region's emerging space economy, which includes growth around NETPark and Northumbria University's £50m North East Space Skills and Training centre.

The programme will strengthen the pipeline of technicians and engineers businesses need to grow, while giving young people clear routes into high-quality careers. It shows how Technical Excellence Colleges are helping places build on existing strengths, attract investment and create opportunity.

Alison Maynard, Deputy Principal at New College Durham, said: "Our ambition is to equip learners with the technical skills, confidence and industry experience needed to thrive in the advanced manufacturing and space sectors, ensuring the North East has the talent pipeline to support its continued economic growth."

Trade, International and Economic Security

Trade Strategy

The government is helping UK businesses trade with confidence, strengthen supply chain resilience, and access high-growth markets in a more complex global economy. Businesses told us they need government to remove barriers to trade, deepen priority relationships to create opportunities for growth and support resilience, and provide clearer support to compete internationally. This decisive action will strengthen the UK's trade system – enhancing resilience, improving export support and equipping businesses to succeed in a more complex global environment.

Highlights include:

- Signing a **Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India**, the fastest-growing economy in the G20, could boost UK GDP by £4.8bn, delivering £400m in annual tariff savings for UK exporters when in force from 15 July.
- Concluding an **FTA with the Gulf Cooperation Council**, estimated to add £3.7bn to the economy annually in the long run when compared to 2040 projections and £1.9bn a year to real wages in the long run.
- Negotiating preferential access to the world's largest economy through the **UK-US Economic Prosperity Deal**. The US accounted for £331bn of UK trade in 2025 (17.5% of total UK trade) and this trade deal has protected industries with hundreds of thousands of jobs across the UK.
- Strengthening the UK-EU **trading relationship**, through closer cooperation on security and defence, agri-food trade, emissions trading, and electricity trading. This includes expanded engagement with businesses on EU regulatory developments and business-facing guidance on key EU regulations.

- In the financial year 2025/26, the market access programme resolved 133 barriers in full, worth around £13bn in potential additional exports to UK businesses over 5 years. Nine of these barriers, worth around £1.5bn over 5 years, received funding from the **Ricardo Fund**. They represent some of the early successes of the programme, which spent £3.5m on more than 140 interventions in the last financial year.

Economic Security and Resilience

The global context makes it more important than ever to approach resilient growth and national security as mutually reinforcing. This starts with the UK's foundational industries, including steel, chemicals, critical minerals, ports, electricity networks, construction materials, and composites. Without a strong domestic base, frontier industries cannot scale and compete effectively.

- **UK-US critical minerals partnership** agreed to build resilient supply chains and encourage investment in the mining and processing of critical minerals essential for defence, automotive, and clean energy industries.
- **Strengthening protections for UK firms** by tackling unfair trading practices, expanding the UK's ability to act, and reforming the trade remedies system.
- **New commitments to boost domestic production of critical inputs** and reduce exposure to supply chain disruption. This includes a £50m Critical Minerals Programme to support UK projects through the Critical Minerals Strategy; steps to shield producers from distortive trade practices and stimulate domestic demand set out in the Steel Strategy; restarting the Ensus plant in Teesside to safeguard the UK's carbon dioxide supply; establishing a £350m Critical Chemicals Resilience Fund to protect key inputs; and providing £120m to support the UK's only ethylene plant in Grangemouth.
- Launching the **Supply Chain Centre** to strengthen access to growth-driving inputs and support business resilience and sustained growth. This includes the Global Supply Chains Intelligence Programme which combines large-scale commercial and Government data with advanced analytics and AI to deliver unique, multi-tier visibility of global supply chains. Alongside this, the **Economic Security Advisory Service** helps businesses identify and manage economic security risks.

Case Study: British Steel

UK Export Finance (UKEF) has guaranteed £746m to support the redevelopment of two major ports in Nigeria, strengthening trade infrastructure and supporting UK exports. The deal includes a £70m contract for British Steel to supply 120,000 tonnes of steel billets, with at least £236m of the overall project value flowing to UK companies. This secures overseas demand for UK manufacturing, underlines the role of foundational sectors such as steel in export delivery, and reinforces the UK's Steel Strategy alongside broader economic security objectives.

International Partnerships

The government is leveraging international partnerships to attract new investment, open export opportunities, and build long-term collaboration in the sectors where the UK has strategic strengths. Businesses told us they value government engagement that converts into commercial outcomes, supports investor confidence, and helps firms access major overseas opportunities. The UK's first G2G Strategy will set out how partnerships drive growth, create jobs and help UK firms better compete in priority global markets. Government is using high-level summits, strategic partnerships and targeted delegations to secure investment, export wins and sector-specific cooperation.

- £1.3bn in new investment secured during the 2026 G7 Summit from leading companies in France and India to back clean energy and AI projects in the UK, with more than 1,400 new jobs to be created in Manchester, Leeds and Birmingham.
- Over £13.5bn of IS-8 investment deals with French investors secured over the past year, including more than £1bn announced at the 2025 UK-France Summit.
- £2.2bn in export wins for British IS-8 firms during the PM visit to China in January 2026.
- £900m in Irish investment into the UK and around 850 new jobs from the 2026 UK-Ireland Summit.
- £6.4bn in trade and investment realised from the Chancellor-led delegation to the Future Investment Initiative in Saudi Arabia.

Case Study: UK-Japan Industrial Strategy Partnership

The UK-Japan Industrial Strategy Partnership, agreed in March 2025, is driving closer cooperation and commercial outcomes across a wide range of sectors, particularly in frontier technologies, next generation energy, and defence industrial cooperation.

The partnership, which is backed by both countries' leading business organisations, the Confederation of British Industry and Keidanren, is harnessing the UK and Japan's complementary industrial priorities to generate greater mutual resilience and growth.

The Frontier Technology Partnership, signed in June 2026 during the Japanese Prime Minister's visit to the UK, accelerates collaboration in advanced technologies, combining UK strengths in AI, quantum technologies and research with Japan's capabilities in hardware, robotics and advanced manufacturing.

The Offshore Wind Compact, developed in close partnership with Great British Energy, will unlock up to £9bn in Japanese investment into the UK's offshore wind sector. A new Defence Capability and Industrial Council will foster greater industrial cooperation between the UK and Japan, accelerating the development of each other's dual-use technologies such as drones and artificial intelligence, helping UK defence firms access significant Japanese investment.

Delivery across the IS-8 Sectors

Advanced Manufacturing

The Industrial Strategy set a vision for the UK to be the best place in the world to start, grow, and invest in Advanced Manufacturing by 2035, nearly doubling business investment to £39bn per year.

Over the last year, Advanced Manufacturing has benefited from greater certainty about the UK's long-term strategy, resulting in increased confidence to invest, innovate and grow in the UK. We have seen billions committed in funding, including R&D, and major investments from firms including Nissan, Cummins and Agratas, all strengthening the UK's competitiveness and supporting growth across the manufacturing base.

The Advanced Manufacturing sector is pressing ahead with adopting AI and decarbonising, even in the context of challenges from trade tensions, supply chain disruption and energy price increases. UK manufacturers are investing in automation and digitalisation, with a growing emphasis on improving productivity and building resilience rather than simply expanding output.

Highlights include:

- Investing £4bn to 2035 via DRIVE35 – a five year programme designed to support research, development and industrialisation in the UK automotive sector – with over £533m in grants to businesses so far, and a separate £650m in EV grants.
- £500m of collaborative R&D funding awarded through Advanced Manufacturing programmes delivered by UKRI. This includes £22m for batteries, £56m for automotive, £254m for aerospace, £63m for sustainable aviation fuel, £24m for space and £62m for agri-tech.
- 28,500 apprenticeship starts feeding directly into Advanced Manufacturing priority occupations in 2024/25, up from 27,600 in 2023/24, with achievements increasing from 13,300 to 16,000.
- Protecting the UK's automotive supply chain and skilled jobs in the West Midlands and Merseyside with a £1.5bn loan guarantee from UKEF to Jaguar Land Rover.
- Partnership signed with Wayve to deepen collaboration on next-generation self-driving technologies and back the scale-up as it continues to grow in Britain.
- More than doubling the number of manufacturing SMEs with access to support to digitise and scale their operations through the Made Smarter Adoption programme.
- Supporting 6,000 jobs through £450m Nissan investment to begin production of the next generation LEAF in Sunderland.

- Four Advanced Manufacturing Technical Excellence Colleges have been announced to lead skills provision and build the pipeline of workers in Wolverhampton, Durham, Newcastle-under-Lyme and Weston-super-Mare.
- Supporting the commercialisation of satellite communications and other space technologies through £1.7bn committed to European Space Agency programmes including £261m for the Commercialisation, Advanced Research in Telecommunications Systems programme and the General Support Technology Programme.

Year 2 will include:

- Around 10,000 businesses benefitting from the British Industrial Competitiveness Scheme from 2027, reducing electricity costs for eligible manufacturers by around 25% on average.
- Business, trade unions, and government collectively delivering the Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Plan.
- Unlocking markets in the US, Europe, Asia-Pacific and the Middle East for British Automotive companies, supported by a Gold Export Campaign.
- Agratas' Somerset Gigafactory will open, focusing on manufacturing lithium-ion battery cells.
- Publishing a new UK Space Strategy, showing this government's approach to space and fully costed delivery plans for the spending review period.
- Launching the agri-tech exports accelerator programme to support the sector to seize global commercial opportunities.

Case Study: Agratas Gigafactory

Agratas is developing a large-scale battery manufacturing facility in Bridgwater, Somerset, to supply electric vehicle batteries for its anchor customer, JLR. The Government is investing £380m in the project to strengthen the UK's advanced manufacturing base, supporting delivery of DRIVE35 by accelerating the transition to net zero, and reducing reliance on imported batteries.

The facility is expected to be one of Europe's largest battery manufacturing plants. The project is anticipated to create over 4,200 direct jobs and thousands more across the supply chain, supporting the growth of a domestic EV ecosystem and strengthening supply chain resilience for the UK automotive sector. When in full operation, Agratas' overall facility is expected to generate around £43bn in economic growth over a 25-year period.

Government support is also enabling wider ecosystem development, including a fast-track battery manufacturing apprenticeship unit with Agratas to create pathways for hundreds of skilled workers, alongside critical infrastructure investment such as a new M5 Junction 22A and major electricity network upgrades.

Backed by DRIVE35's Automotive Transformation Fund, the investment positions the UK at the forefront of automotive decarbonisation, demonstrating how targeted public funding can catalyse large-scale private investment, anchor supply chains in the UK, and support long-term growth in a globally competitive manufacturing base.

Clean Energy Industries

Clean Energy Industries are the UK's greatest reindustrialisation opportunity of the 21st century. The UK aspires to be a global leader by 2035, supported by a doubling of annual government investment to over £30bn, and stronger exports, resilient and robust supply chains and good quality jobs throughout the country.

Over the last year, there have been significant strides in building the UK's clean energy industrial base, increasing domestic manufacturing capability, and capturing more of the growth benefits of the transition in the UK. Long-term certainty is giving investors the confidence to back the UK with a record-breaking Allocation Round 7, the Warm Homes Plan, and Fusion Strategy all providing strong demand signals.

Government is increasing opportunities for UK firms to manufacture the next decade's offshore wind nacelles, hydrogen electrolysers, and Small Modular Reactor steam turbines, creating an environment for businesses to build it in Britain, and power the world. The UK saw £100bn of private investment announced into all Clean Energy Industries since July 2024. Deployment investment more than doubled, from £7bn in 2024 to £15.6bn in 2025, creating opportunities for domestic manufacturing.

Highlights include:

- Launch of £1bn 'Energy, Engineered in the UK' programme from Great British Energy (GBE) to grow supply chains and create 10,000 jobs by 2030 has begun. GBE and the government has provided £86.5m investment to ITM Power to cement the future of hydrogen electrolyser manufacturing in Sheffield.
- A record Allocation Round 7 of c.8.4GW of offshore wind across fixed bottom and floating projects, providing a strong market for supply chain investment. In Scotland, this will see up to £1bn in private investment leveraged, up to 2,000 jobs supported, and will total nearly 1.5GW through the Berwick Bank B project and Pentland project.
- £204m allocated to support offshore wind supply chain investment in the UK as part of the Clean Industry Bonus. This could leverage billions of private investment, which will flow into UK manufacturing and ports.
- £2.5bn public investment through the UK Fusion Strategy to grow the industrial capacity required for commercial fusion and build the UK's first prototype fusion reactor in West Burton by 2040 – STEP, which has signed a £200m contract with the Construction Partner, and a £70m contract with the first engineering systems partner for next-generation magnet technologies.
- Accelerating nuclear projects through implementing all recommendations from the Nuclear Regulatory Review. Contract signed with Rolls Royce

SMR to build the UK's first Small Modular Reactors in Wylfa, Anglesey, supporting up to 3,000 skilled jobs at peak construction and thousands more across the supply chain.

- The Clean Energy Jobs Plan, bringing together measures including the expansion of the Transition Training Fund, the North Sea Jobs Service, and five Clean Energy Technical Excellence Colleges.
- Ensuring public investment in offshore wind comes with a commitment to fair work, access to trade unions and best practice health and safety through a fair work charter.
- £15bn to upgrade British homes through the Warm Homes Plan, including support for clean heat deployment and manufacturing investment into heat pumps.
- East Coast Cluster and Hynet Carbon Capture, Usage, and Storage (CCUS) projects under construction, with £1.5bn of supply chain contracts awarded to UK companies from Net Zero Teesside and the Northern Endurance Partnership.
- Vestas announced plans to build a wind turbine nacelle factory in Scotland, which would create up to 500 jobs; Schneider Electric's £42m switchgear factory in Yorkshire is now operational, creating 200 jobs; and three projects from Hydrogen Allocation Round 1 have reached Final Investment Decision.
- UK Export Finance committed to provide £210m of support for Urenco's nuclear fuel exports, supporting more than 650 jobs in Chester and around 4,500 jobs across the wider UK supply chain.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- £300m in grant funding through Great British Energy's Offshore Wind and Networks Supply Chain Fund, with a further £700m being invested in clean energy supply chains this Parliament.
- The Clean Industry Bonus expanding to onshore wind as part of Allocation Round 9 in 2027, with onshore wind projects providing more business and benefits for UK supply chains and greater benefits for local communities.
- A further £90m round of the Heat Pump Investment Accelerator Competition to galvanise investments in UK manufacturing.
- More on future hydrogen deployment plans, to provide greater clarity on market development.
- Hynet CCUS project negotiations continuing final investment decisions and two East Coast Cluster competitions and a requirement for shorter or more sustainable supply chains to support UK jobs.
- Co-hosting a Global Fusion Policy Summit with the US, advancing discussions on fusion policy and regulation, technical and commercial collaboration, and opportunities to support the deployment of fusion energy.
- Sumitomo Electric will open the first UK High-Voltage Direct Current cable factory, GE Vernova's Stafford factory will significantly increase transformer manufacturing capacity and Hitachi Energy will expand facilities in the West Midlands with a new £18m site in Staffordshire.

Creative Industries

By 2035 the UK's position as a global creative superpower will be enhanced as the premier destination worldwide for investment in creativity and innovation. The Creative Industries sector will significantly increase business investment to £31bn.

The sector, which continues to drive growth and create jobs that span the UK's cultural excellence and innovative tech, reflecting global demand for UK creative content, services, and innovation. Recent data suggests the sector grew by 3.1% in the last quarter, outpacing the wider UK economy.

By targeting support to frontier industries, the government is helping to unlock private investment and deliver substantial regional funding.

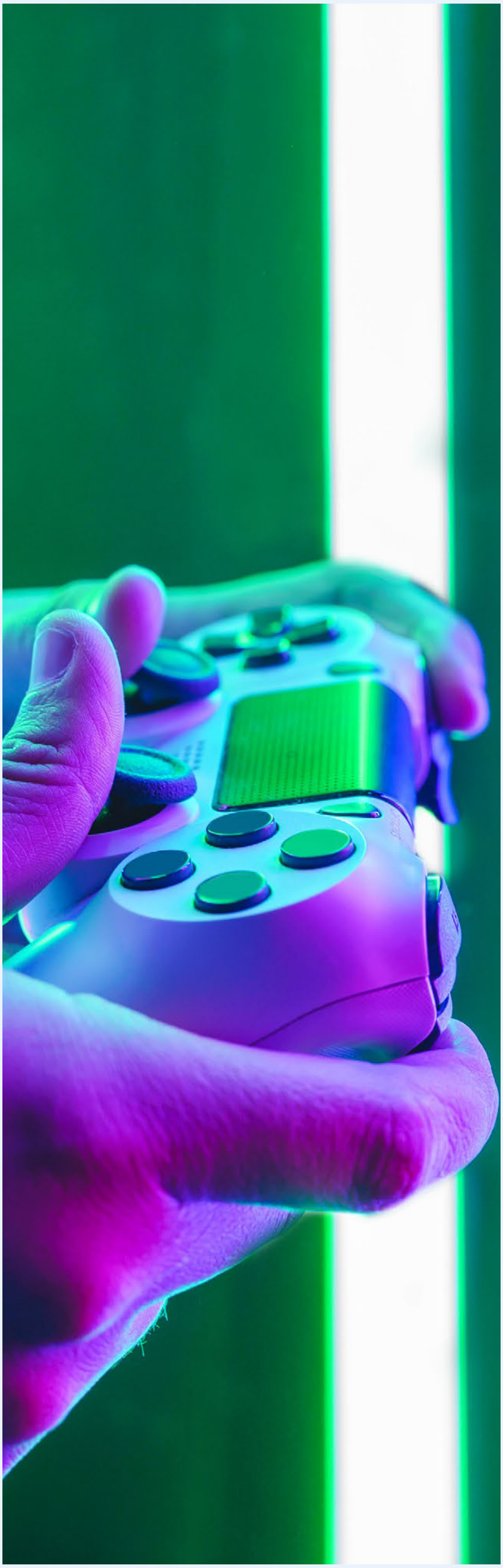
Highlights include:

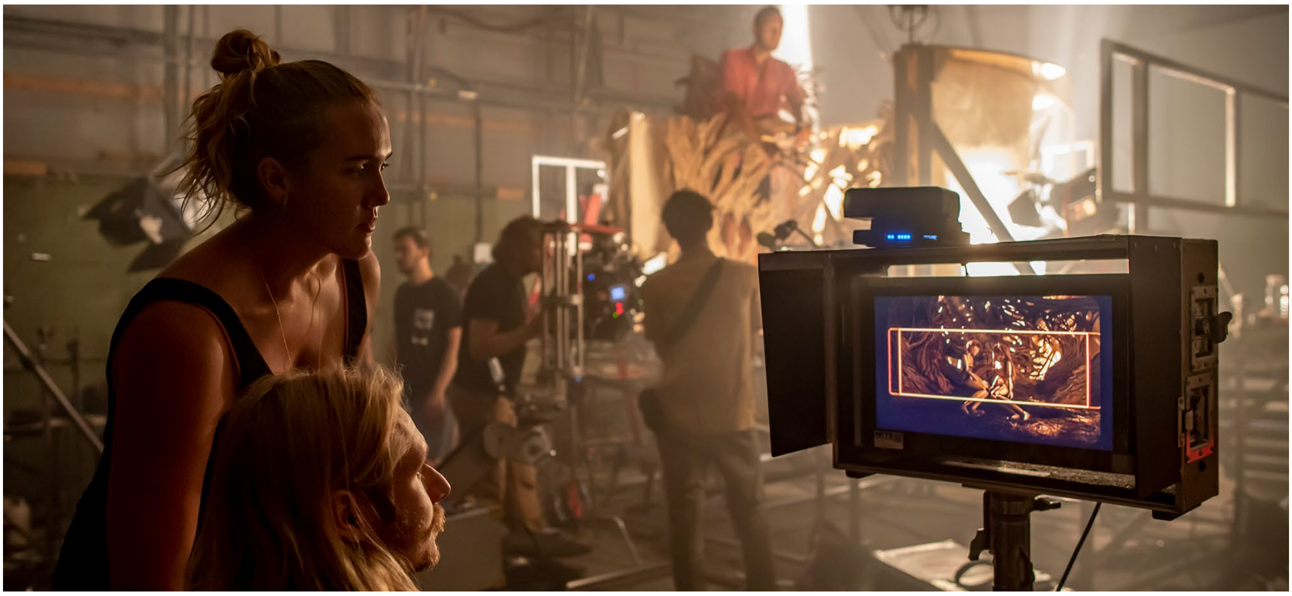
- £30m Games Package, including £500k already delivered for the London Games Festival, aiming to double the festival's annual private investment deals to £30m. £30m Music Package to support emerging artists and boost the international export of UK music, including £1.4m funding already distributed to 68 artists via the Music Export Growth Scheme.
- Empowering Mayors to design interventions for creative businesses and freelancers through the £150m Creative Places Growth Fund (CPGF). This consists of £25m allocations for Greater Manchester, Liverpool City Region, North East, West of England, West Midlands, and West Yorkshire.
- More than 80,000 young people taking part in activities during Discover! Creative Careers Month, in November 2025, involving over 1,200 schools and 600 employers, with industry contributing an estimated £1.5m in support.
- A British Business Bank commitment of up to £45m to Redrice Ventures and working capital for Allegro Finance's UK film and TV lending platform through Beechbrook Capital, and support for a £2.6m equity investment for Edinburgh-based entertainment tech company Esk Film Services to help the company scale its global live entertainment experiences.
- Expansion of Production Park in West Yorkshire, directly supporting up to 200 high quality jobs, adding over 70,000 sq. ft of commercial space to attract more large-scale stage and screen productions.

- Universal's 'Universal United Kingdom Resort' theme park confirmed, backed by £1.3bn of government infrastructure investment to unlock £5bn from Comcast NBCUniversal, creating 28,000 jobs and delivering nearly £50bn for the UK.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- Creating more and better jobs, and develop new products across frontier sectors, through £100m Creative Clusters competition, with first round winners announced by the end of November 2026.
- Expansion of Creative Industries R&D nationwide, through additional CoSTAR labs and a new wave of R&D clusters in early 2027.
- The National Centre for Arts and Music Education to launch in September 2026, alongside delivery of a refreshed Creative Careers Service and the rollout of Skills Passports.
- The first delivery phase of three-year growth packages for Screen (£75m), Video Games (£30m), and Music (£30m).





Case Study: National Film and Television School

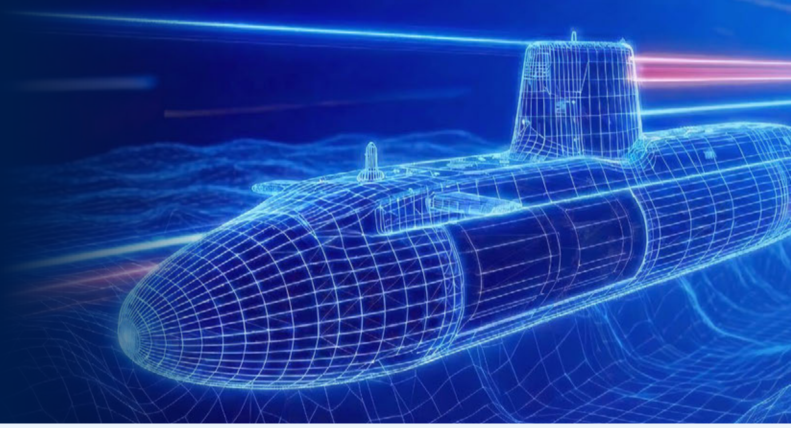
The National Film and Television School (NFTS) is a postgraduate institution delivering industry-led training in film, television and games across campuses in Beaconsfield, Leeds, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Cardiff. Over 90% of graduates secure roles in the screen industries, with recent alumni credits including Paddington in Peru and Baby Reindeer.

The Government has committed £10m to expand NFTS, leveraging a further £11m from industry partners including Disney, Sky and Netflix, for a total £21m investment to address skills shortages and strengthen the talent pipeline.

The investment supports construction of the Cubby Broccoli Building at the Beaconsfield campus, which broke ground in February 2026 and is due to open in January 2027. The expansion will increase student capacity by around 25% and support training for 2,000 new trainees and apprentices over the next decade.

NFTS is also expanding regional provision through partnerships with Channel 4's 4Skills, delivering bursary-supported courses in scriptwriting and script supervision through NFTS North (Leeds), NFTS Scotland and NFTS Cymru Wales. The investment strengthens the UK's screen workforce pipeline, supporting growth in a globally competitive creative industries sector.

Defence



By 2035, the UK will be a defence industrial leader: the best place to grow a defence business; with Europe's leading defence exporters; with radically reduced times to contract across defence procurements; and with a more competitive, innovative, integrated and resilient defence industrial base.

Conflict in Ukraine, instability in the Middle East, and growing global competition demonstrates that national and economic security depend on industrial strength. The UK continues to lead globally, and 2025 was the biggest year for defence exports on record, securing major exports such as the £8bn Typhoon agreement with Türkiye while rapidly advancing emerging capabilities, including counter drone technologies such as Skyhammer. This combination of world class platforms and fast-moving innovation underpins growth, strengthens sovereign capability, and builds the resilience the UK needs in a more contested world.

Highlights include:

- Publication of the Defence Investment Plan, a 10-year plan to implement the Strategic Defence Review, setting out clear sector and capability priorities, tilting investment towards areas that drive growth and innovation while strengthening a resilient, competitive UK industrial base.
- UKEF has transformed its support for the UK defence sector, launching a landmark £50bn Defence Export Fund, the largest expansion of its financial capacity in its 100-year history, to help British defence companies win major international contracts, strengthen allies' security, and back jobs and growth across the UK.
- A ringfenced annual budget of at least £400m to set up UK Defence Innovation which will accelerate innovation, strengthen security, and grow UK defence technology.
- £250m investment to launch five Defence Growth Deals across the UK in Plymouth, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and South Yorkshire targeting regional growth and defence capability.
- Announcement of Defence Technical Excellence Colleges in Blackpool, Plymouth, Lincoln, Rotherham and Yeovil; and the Defence Universities Alliance to strengthen regional ecosystems.
- Swedish Gripen fighter jet deal for Ukraine, with over 30% of each aircraft built in the UK, supporting more than 5,000 jobs in England and Scotland, and sustaining a strong pipeline of high-value aerospace employment across the UK.

- Continued delivery of the AUKUS partnership through a trilateral ministerial agreement, including finalising arrangements for Submarine Rotational Force-West from 2027 and launching the first Pillar II capability project to accelerate advanced undersea technologies.
- The awarding of thirteen British based SMEs contracts of up to £4m each from the £20m Defence Unicorn Fund, delivered by Commercial X and Constellia through a Neutral Vendor Framework for Innovation (NVFI) set up two years ago. NVFI is a flexible route to market designed to accelerate the procurement of cutting-edge technology solutions.
- Opening Europe's largest drone testing centre, the Uncrewed Systems Centre (USC), based at the DroneTEX facility in Swindon. The USC will serve as a focal point for development and testing of the latest drone technology, driving collaboration with industry, allies and partners.
- Opening new routes into defence through the Defence Office for Small Business Growth and a £20m Defence Unicorn Fund for high-growth defence start-ups.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- Deepening the pace and scale of innovation through UK Defence Innovation as it reaches full operation in summer 2026, including clearer prioritisation and stronger routes for rapid pull-through.
- Continuing reform of procurement and acquisition so Defence can contract faster, reduce barriers to entry, and make better use of UK industrial capability.

Case Study: Investment in the Clyde region through defence deals

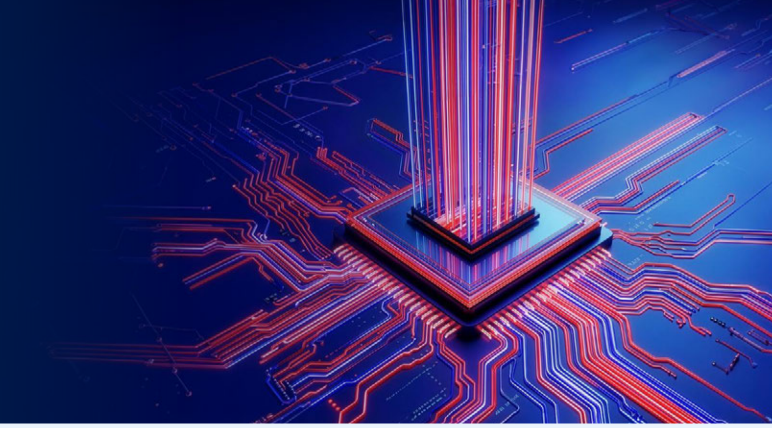
The BAE Systems–Norway Type 26 frigate agreement demonstrates how government support for strategic sectors such as defence can create export success, deepen international partnerships, anchor high-value jobs and strengthen local industrial clusters.

Announced in 2025, the £10bn deal will see at least five Type 26 frigates for the Royal Norwegian Navy built on the River Clyde in Glasgow, alongside the Royal Navy's own programme.

The agreement is expected to support around 2,000 jobs directly in Scottish shipbuilding and a further 2,000 across the wider UK supply chain, while benefiting more than 100 Scottish businesses, including numerous SMEs.

For the Clyde region, the deal provides a sustained pipeline of work into the late 2030s, underpinning apprenticeships, skills development, advanced manufacturing capability and private investment in shipyard infrastructure. It reinforces the Clyde's position as one of Europe's leading centres of naval shipbuilding.

Digital and Technologies



By 2035, the UK will be one of the top three places in the world to create, invest in and scale-up a fast-growing technology business, and to secure the UK's first trillion-dollar company.

Major technological breakthroughs, including the rise of agentic AI, the emergence of powerful new AI models, and major advances towards reliable quantum processing. These have underlined the critical importance of building the UK's strategic technological capabilities for national growth, resilience and security.

Highlights include:

- Nearly £4bn UK Research and Innovation investment in frontier technologies between now and 2029/30.
- £1bn to procure large-scale quantum computers by the early 2030s, helping deliver personalised treatments, identifying potential cures for diseases, safeguarding national security and delivering high-paid jobs.
- Five AI Growth Zones in North Wales, South Wales, Lanarkshire, the North East, and Oxfordshire, generating £28.2bn and 15,000 jobs.
- £500m sovereign venture fund, Sovereign AI, launched to give AI startups capital and resources required to scale.
- Over £140m in competitions and £110m in investments for the future of UK Telecoms Lab.
- Announcement of five Digital Technical Excellence Colleges in England to train the next generation of highly-skilled tech workers.
- Our £1.1bn AI Hardware Plan to boost Britain's ability to develop, deploy, and scale AI technologies and chips, supporting growth and jobs, strengthening national security, and boosting the UK's competitiveness.
- Extra £263m to Engineering Biology, bringing total public investment to £644m between now and 2029/30.
- £200m TechFirst skills programme has reached over 100,000 young people so far.
- £8.3bn equity investment received by frontier technology companies across 1,284 equity deals in 2025.

Year two delivery will include:

- Enabling works begin at several AI Growth Zones in 2026, with demolition, remediation, and groundworks underway.
- Investing £198m through the National Engineering Biology Programme and £184m in infrastructure investments, positioning the UK at the global research frontier, and boost talent attraction and commercialisation.
- Phase one of the ProQure programme to identify, grow, and deploy world-leading quantum computing capabilities.
- New cohort of 400 bursary students under the Semiconductor Skills Programmes and first cohort of PhDs in the new Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Semiconductor Skills.

Case Study: Quantum Motion

Quantum Motion is a UK-based spin-out from the University of Oxford and University College London, developing quantum computers on silicon chips with potential applications across drug discovery, finance and cybersecurity. Founded in 2017, the company combines advanced quantum physics with established semiconductor manufacturing techniques to pursue scalable, commercially viable quantum computing.

In May 2026, the British Business Bank invested £40m in Quantum Motion as part of a $160m Series C funding round, following a £5m investment in its 2023 Series B. This larger direct investment reflects reforms to the Bank in 2025, enabling increased support for high-growth UK scale-ups at the frontier of innovation.

The investment supports Quantum Motion's ambition to build scalable quantum computers and follows the company's world-first deployment of a full-stack quantum computer built on standard silicon chips at the UK National Quantum Computing Centre. Using the same material as conventional electronics provides a credible pathway to scaling quantum systems through existing manufacturing infrastructure.

Quantum Motion has also progressed to Stage B of DARPA's Quantum Benchmarking Initiative, which is testing whether a commercially useful quantum computer can be realised by 2033 through rigorous validation of competing technological approaches.

The investment builds on a long-standing partnership between the British Business Bank and the National Security Strategic Investment Fund, which first backed the company in 2020. It demonstrates how coordinated support across the UK Government ecosystem can help innovative firms to start, scale and anchor high-value capability in the UK, strengthening the country's position in a strategically critical technology.

Financial Services

UK Financial Services exports rose by 5.9% in 2025 in real terms, with the UK's proportion of global financial services exports increasing by 1.1ppt to 17.4%.

The Financial Services sector is entering a period of rapid transformation that is reshaping how capital is mobilised and deployed. By creating the conditions for firms to scale and invest, government is leveraging the sector as a key enabler for frontier industries and the wider economy.

Highlights include:

- Dedicated concierge service for international financial services firms seeking to establish or grow their UK presence through the Office for Investment: Financial Services.
- PISCES, an innovative new type of stock market for trading private company shares, providing a stepping stone for companies eyeing a future IPO listing and helping them stay in the UK. The first PISCES trading events successfully took place in March 2026.
- Pension schemes will be required to demonstrate they are delivering value for money. Government is also enabling the consolidation of fragmented pension schemes, to create larger, better-performing funds which will help drive investment in the economy.
- Access to expert support and making it simpler for scaling firms to get timely response to regulatory queries through the launch of a Scale-Up unit jointly run by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. This will enable entrepreneurs to focus on developing new products, hiring staff, and bringing investment into local economies. The first Scale-up Unit cohort for dual-regulated firms was announced in February 2026, providing support to six fast-growing UK firms.
- In September Revolut CEO Nik Storonsky stated, at the opening of Revolut's new Canary Wharf offices, that securing full regulatory authorisation to lend in the UK was the bank's no.1 priority, and pledged to invest £3bn into the UK economy. Revolut gained full authorisation in March 2026.
- Following the US State visit, Blackstone announced a commitment to invest £100bn into UK investments over the next decade.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- Embedding the Year 1 reforms to unlock more institutional investment and accelerate growth in high-potential firms.
- Working towards Royal Assent of the Financial Services and Markets Bill. Implementation of the Bill will include reforms to the Financial Ombudsman Service, consolidation of the Payment Services Regulator into the Financial Conduct Authority, and enabling credit unions to expand by improving the rules on who can become a member.

Life Sciences

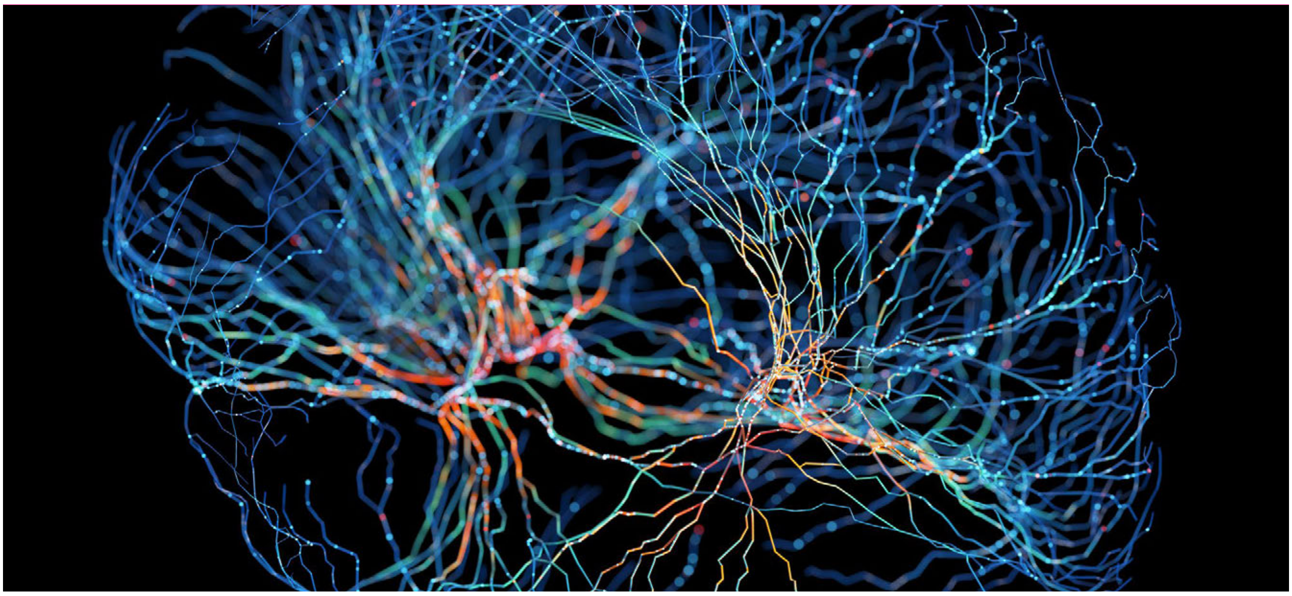
As the largest private investor in R&D in the UK, AstraZeneca employs over 10,000 people across five sites. In April, it committed a further £300m to the UK. This investment reflects the confidence this global pharmaceutical company has in the UK life sciences environment following government action, including the UK-US Pharmaceutical agreements and measures to support faster access to innovative medicines.

Highlights include:

- The landmark UK-US pharmaceuticals arrangement has delivered a more preferential tariff position for the UK than any other country. UK Life Sciences exports to the US are already worth at least £5bn a year.
- Reduced commercial clinical trial set-up times by almost a third on average in 2025.
- Unlocked over £843m of private investment through the Life Sciences Innovative Manufacturing Fund, with £115m committed to ten projects supporting the UK manufacture of vital medicines and treatments, creating 487 jobs and safeguarding a further 1,330.
- £75m to accelerate innovative alternatives to animal testing through the Animals in Science Strategy.
- A £100m British Business Bank commitment to Apposite Healthcare Growth I, a fund investing to support the growth of health technology companies primarily in the UK, and a £5m direct equity investment by the Bank into IMU Biosciences, a UK-based biotech company that decodes the immune system using high-definition multi-omic analysis and machine learning.
- Pilot of the Life Sciences Large Investment Portfolio's Place First Programme with Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region to help win major life sciences investments (over £250m) from around the world.
- Over £2bn of investment into the sector since July 2025.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) will drive reforms to speed up and streamline approvals to establish more flexible and internationally aligned routes to market.
- The Health Data Research Service (HDRS) will begin creating a UK-wide service providing a single point of access to health data in Summer 2026.
- Legislative change, such as the NHS Bill, to enable more efficient and secure access to health data.



Case Study: AstraZeneca

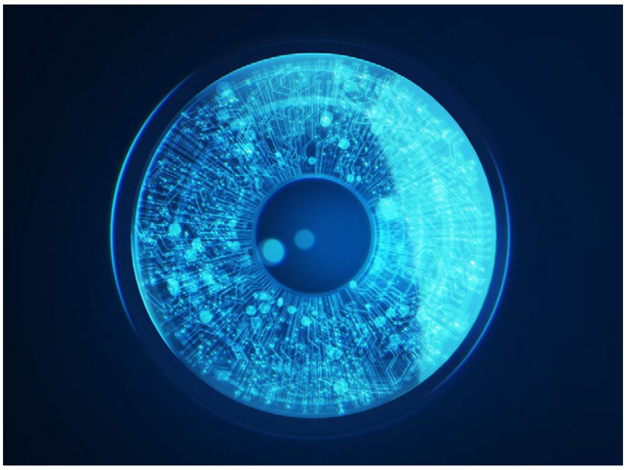
AstraZeneca is a global biopharmaceutical company and the UK's largest private R&D investor, employing around 10,000 people across five UK sites.

In April 2026, AstraZeneca announced a £300m investment in the UK, reflecting confidence in the UK life sciences environment following government action including the UK–US pharmaceutical agreement and measures to support faster access to innovative medicines.

The commitment includes completion of the Rosalind Franklin building on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, enabling co-location of around 1,000 employees and strengthening links between research, development and commercial teams.

A further £100m will be invested in AstraZeneca's Macclesfield site to modernise facilities and expand capability, including a 'Lab of the Future' using digital and data tools for drug development, alongside infrastructure upgrades.

The investment supports high-value R&D and manufacturing activity in both the Northern Growth Corridor and Oxford to Cambridge Growth Corridor, reinforcing the country's strength in life sciences and supporting jobs and long-term growth.



Professional and Business Services

By 2035, the UK will be the world's most trusted adviser to global industry, with the most dynamic and productive sector, remaining the world's second largest exporter. The PBS sector will double business investment to £65bn.

Between the launch of the plan and this April, turnover for all three frontier industries has increased by 12.5% for Legal Services, 13.3% for Accountancy, and 9% for Management Consultancy.

Exports have also increased, with Legal Services increasing by 23.1% in nominal terms between Q2 and Q4 2025 (growth split between USA and EU), and Consulting services increasing by 18.6% in the same period (mostly coming from the USA).

The sector is in a period of rapid change and transformation, driven by AI and digital innovation. Demand for trusted, high-value advisory services is growing, as business clients in the UK and overseas turn to professional services firms for expertise on resilience, digital adoption, and navigating complex operating environments. The sector acts as a key enabler for other growth-driving industries and the economy as a whole.

Highlights include:

- Investment in UK-founded lawtechs hit £188.8m in 2025, 35% above 2024.
- The UK-Switzerland Services Mobility Agreement extended to 2029, allowing UK professionals to continue to travel to Switzerland and work visa-free for up to 90 days. In 2025, the UK's PBS exports to Switzerland were worth almost £9bn.
- Through the new UK-Gulf Cooperation Council trade deal UK PBS firms and professionals can benefit from the most ambitious mobility commitments ever granted by the GCC to a trading partner. This includes guaranteed access to visas and improved length of stay commitments, as well as provisions to encourage recognition of professional qualifications.
- AI Growth Labs sandbox launched, with Legal Services the first sector to participate.
- Publication of the AI Adoption Plan which sets out the vision for accelerating AI adoption across the sector, and appointment of the Professional & Business Services AI champion, Shaheen Sayed.
- Marco Amitrano, Alliance Senior Partner, PwC UK and Middle East, appointed Business Co-Chair of the Professional and Business Services Council for a two-year term to galvanise delivery and strengthen the impact of the Sector Plan.

Year 2 delivery will include:

- The Professional & Business Services Job Plan to support the right skills to drive growth and help people move into quality jobs.
- UKRI will announce the specific programmes that will be funded via £118m over the spending review period until 2030 for research and development, helping businesses deploy AI and data-driven innovation safely and at scale.
- A new LawtechUK grant programme will support startups to develop cutting-edge legal technologies that improve efficiency, reduce costs, and expand access to justice.
- The new English Law Promotion Panel will launch its strategy to promote English and Welsh law as a leading choice for businesses internationally, strengthening the UK's global competitiveness in this sector.
- Advancing improved qualification recognition arrangements across regulated professional services, including accountancy, architecture, surveying, and legal services, with a focus on priority markets such as India, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and the EU.

Partnerships

Partnerships remain central to the Industrial Strategy, as set out in its commitments a year ago. This includes between national and local government and businesses of all sizes; between cities and regions; among clusters of sectoral strength located around the UK, and the innovators and research institutions within them; in collaboration within nations and markets around the world; and in the agility and responsiveness with which the UK collectively seizes its opportunities for growth.

- **Government has strengthened the way business insight feeds into decision-making**. Business perspectives are now embedded throughout the policy process, from identifying barriers to growth through to shaping solutions. The Confederation of British Industry and Lloyds Bank have helped bring together government and business across the UK, supporting delivery of the Industrial Strategy.
- **Industry-led sector councils continue to shape Sector Plan implementation** and host a dialogue on how delivery is translating to impact for real UK businesses, including Jobs Plans and the appointment of independent AI Champions' adoption plans, to accelerate AI use across key sectors.
- **As a result of a recent farming and regulation deep dive between government and businesses**, government is working with industry to accelerate the rollout of agricultural robotics, helping businesses bring new technologies to farmers faster and with greater confidence. A new GOV.UK hub, will bring agri-robotics regulation together in one clear place from early 2027.
- **Co-creation of interventions with business** to create policy with business for business, such as the Ricardo Fund, where government has worked closely with businesses to identify the issues that most hampered their ability to export, so work was tailored to their business opportunities.
- **We continue to build commercial skills in government, with targeted learning to embed a stronger culture of co-creation** and equip officials in the Department for Business and Trade to engage businesses earlier and more meaningfully in the policy process.
- The **Industrial Strategy Advisory Council**, made up of experts from a range of backgrounds, supports us to drive growth through the Industrial Strategy, and has continued to work

closely with government Ministers. Their priorities include advising on the delivery of effective Jobs Plans, driving greater employer engagement in the skills system, Monitoring and Evaluation, addressing issues preventing disruptive business models, and boosting business dynamism in different types of places across the UK.

Case Study: Partnership with the University of Manchester

In line with the commitment in the Industrial Strategy, the Industrial Strategy Advisory Council is supported by a Secretariat made up of policy professionals and analysts. The Secretariat's headquarters is being established in Manchester, with a second presence in London. The Council has partnered with the University of Manchester to benefit from its research and expertise. The Council's presence in Manchester ensures that the Council's work benefits from insights into how to drive growth at a local level reflecting the expertise of local leaders, businesses, and institutions.

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Department for Business and Trade

The UK's Department for Business and Trade is an economic growth department. We ensure fair, competitive markets at home, secure access to new markets abroad and support businesses to invest, export and grow. Our priorities are the Industrial Strategy, Make Work Pay, the Trade Strategy and the Plan for Small Business.

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