

INNOVATION POLICY & PRACTICE

A consultation on the West Midlands response
to the National Innovation Strategy

Virtual Housekeeping

- Please keep yourself on mute during presentations
- Please ensure you display your name and organisation, particularly for breakout discussions
- During the presentations we welcome comments and interaction via the chat function, but there will not be a Q&A session this time to maximise discussion time in breakout groups
- You will be moved to breakouts and returned automatically
- During the breakouts, please raise your hand (virtual or actual) and wait for the facilitator to invite your comment
- Presentations and breakout discussions will be recorded
- We will finish by 10.55 to allow you to get to 11.00 meetings
- It is advisable to turn off any other webinar facilities such as Skype and MS Teams to avoid lag and strain on your data connection. It can also help if you disconnect from your VPN whilst using Zoom



Agenda

09.30: Welcome and update on the Innovation Alliance and WM Innovation Programme.

Pam Waddell, Director IAWM

09.40: National Context – The UK Innovation Strategy and implications for place

Shahid Omer, Deputy Director for Innovation, BEIS

09.50: West Midlands Context – Innovation, the Plan for Growth and Levelling Up

Jonathan Skinner, Head of Economy and Local Industrial Strategy, WMCA

10.00: Introduction to Breakout Questions and how responses will be used

Jamie Elliott, Innovation Lead, WMCA

10.05: Breakout discussions

facilitators and scribes have been allocated to each group

10.45: Return to plenary for feedback on key points

10.55: Close



INNOVATION ALLIANCE & WEST MIDLANDS INNOVATION PROGRAMME

Pam Waddell, IAWM

The WM Innovation Programme



Strategy

Innovation Board

People

WMCA Programme Team

Innovation Alliance WM Executive

Virtual Innovation Team

- ✓ Creative
- ✓ Low Carbon
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Rail
- ✓ Construction
- ✓ Aerospace
- ✓ Transport

Programmes & activities

Intelligence

- ✓ MIT REAP
- ✓ LIS
- ✓ Sector Ideas
- ✓ MMO's

Talent

- ✓ Virtual Innovation Team
- ✓ Innovation Training

Networks

- ✓ Venturefest WM
- ✓ Innovation Support Forum
- ✓ Innovation Policy and Practice
- ✓ Smart City Alliance
- ✓ Innovative Low Carbon Working Group
- ✓ Innovative Health Working Group
- ✓ Innovative Manufacturing Working Group

Culture

- ✓ Innovation Tracker
- ✓ New Voices of Innovation
- ✓ 3x GH collaboration

Projects

- ✓ The Grid
- ✓ Regional Retrofit Business Case
- ✓ SCIP Innovation Pilot
- ✓ IP Enabler
- ✓ Health and Wellbeing
- ✓ Innovation Engine 3
- ✓ e4F New Start
- ✓ DIAG COMM
- Innovation In Procurement

Innovation Alliance WM is on the move...

- From 1 September our accountable body is West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA)
- We will go public with new e-mails from 1 October

But we are still...

A bottom-up, independent Alliance of diverse organisations active or interested in innovation across the West Midlands. Our two core aims remain to:

- Build and maintain a thriving innovation ecosystem
- Stimulate and catalyse a pipeline of innovation activity





**Liz
McArdle**

High Value Manufacturing -
Warwick Manufacturing Group



**Alan
Carr**

Low Carbon -
Sustainability West
Midlands



**Jenny
Illingsworth**

Rail -
Rail Alliance



**Tim
Luft**

Creative -
Create Central



**Hilary
Smyth-Allen**

Modern Services -
SuperTech



**Chris
Lane**

Mobility -
Transport for West Midlands



**Chaminda
Pathirage**

Construction -
University of Wolverhampton



**Andrew
Mair**

Aerospace -
Midlands Aerospace Alliance



**Emma
Yeap**

Health -
WM Health Technologies
Cluster



**Devon
Geary**

Digital -
Innovation Alliance for
the West Midlands

Networks and events update

- **Working Group meetings:**

- Innovative Zero Carbon Working Group took place on 14 September 2021 (contact alan.carr@swm.org.uk)
- Smart Places Working Group speed networking event took place on HopIn on 15 September 2021 (contact devon_geary@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk)
- Innovative Health Working Group 22 September 2021 (contact emma@wmhct.co.uk)
- Innovative Manufacturing Working Group 28 September 2021 (contact E.McArdle@warwick.ac.uk)

- **Venturefest WM** 24 March 2022 – [sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities](#) now available

NATIONAL CONTEXT:

The UK Innovation Strategy & implications for place

Shahid Omer, BEIS

UK Innovation Strategy: Leading the future by creating it

Innovation Strategy – Leading the future by creating it

- Innovation is crucial to the UK building back better. Boosting innovation in the private sector is an essential part of the UK's future prosperity.
- This Strategy focuses on **how we support private sector innovation** by making the most of the UK's research, development and innovation system.
- Our overarching vision is to become a **global hub for innovation by 2035.**



UK Innovation Strategy - Pillars

**‘Making the UK a global hub for innovation by 2035, placing innovation at the centre of everything this nation does.’
We will achieve this objective through four pillars of activity.**



Pillar 1: Unleashing Business

We will fuel businesses who want to innovate.



Pillar 2: People

We will create the most exciting place for innovation talent.



Pillar 3: Institutions and Places

We will ensure our Research, Development & Innovation institutions serve the needs of businesses and places across the UK.



Pillar 4: Mission and Technologies

We will stimulate innovation to tackle societal and global challenges and drive capability in key technologies.

Achieving our vision - Pillar 1: Unleashing Business

Sets out the steps we are taking to create an ecosystem that encourages and enables all UK businesses to innovate.

Finance	Infrastructure	World-class regulation	Pro-innovation competition regime	Safeguarding intellectual property	International trade	Public procurement	Getting technologies to market	Driving adoption
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Key actions include:

- Increasing annual public investment on R&D to a record £22 billion.
- Reducing complexity for innovative companies by developing an online finance and innovation hub between Innovate UK and the British Business Bank within the next 12 months.
- Consulting on how regulation can ensure that the UK is well-placed to extract the best value from innovation.

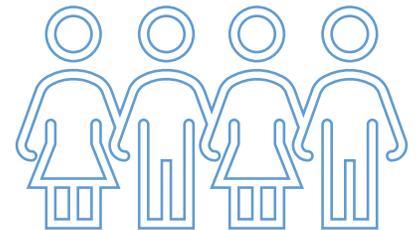


Achieving our Vision Pillar 2: People

Sets out how we will provide businesses with the skills they need, by developing the UK's workforce and attracting and retaining global talent.

Key actions include:

- Introducing new High Potential Individual and Scale-up route and revitalise the Innovator route to attract and retain high-skilled, globally mobile innovation talent.
- Launching the second project of the Emerging Skills Programme to explore further how the Skills Value Chain could be adopted by the innovation ecosystem.



Achieving our vision Pillar 3: Institutions and Places

Sets out how we will ensure our Research, Development & Innovation institutions serve the needs of businesses and places across the UK.

Key actions include:

- Undertaking an independent review looking across the landscape of UK and international organisations undertaking all forms of research, development and innovation.
- Allocating £127 million through the Strength in Places Fund to 5 projects that will develop R&D capacity and support local growth across the UK.
- Investing £25 million of funding to the Connecting Capability Fund to help drive economic growth through university-business innovation.



Achieving our vision Pillar 4: Missions & Technologies

We will stimulate innovation to tackle societal and global challenges and drive capability in key technologies.

Key actions include:

- Establishing a new Innovation Missions programme to tackle some of the most significant issues confronting the UK and the world in the coming years.
- Identifying the key seven technology families that will transform our economy in the future.
- Launch new Prosperity Partnerships to establish business-led research projects to develop transformational new technologies, with £59 million of industry, university and government investment.

Advanced materials & manufacturing

Engineering biology

AI, digital & advanced computing

Bioinformatics & genomics

Electronics, photonics & quantum

Energy & environment technologies

Robotics & smart machines

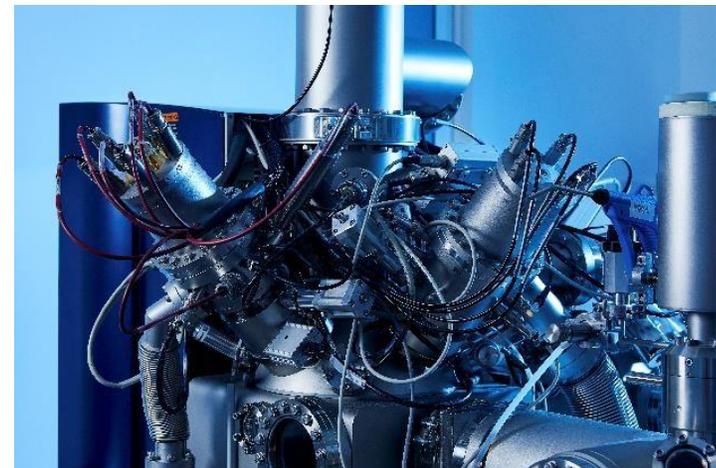


Implementation

- Achieving our vision will require coordinated activity between the private and public sector over many years. We need to understand what this step-change will look like, be able to monitor progress and have clear understanding of success.
- As we move into the implementation phase, our plan is to establish a new Business Innovation Forum to galvanise action from the business community, drive implementation of the Strategy, and to hold Government to account on the actions contained within the Strategy.



Credit: UKRI



Credit: UKRI

WEST MIDLANDS CONTEXT:

Innovation, the Plan for Growth and Levelling Up

Jonathan Skinner, WMCA

Response to Government's Innovation Strategy in the West Midlands

Thursday 16 September

Jonathan Skinner

Head of Economy and Local Industrial Strategy, WMCA



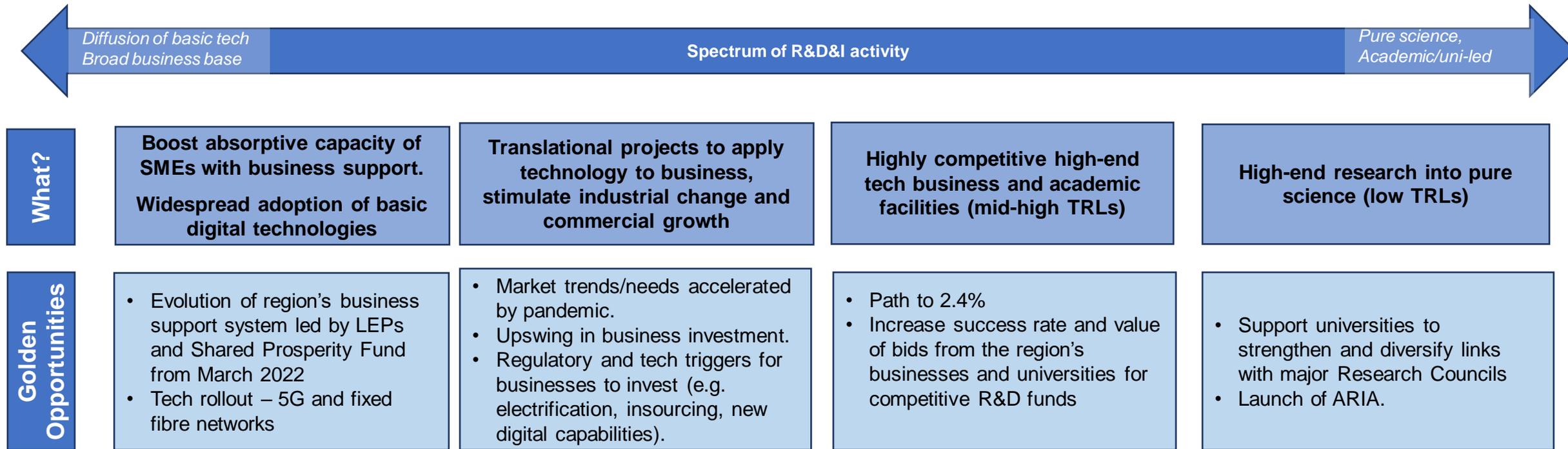
West Midlands
Combined Authority

Delivering inclusive growth

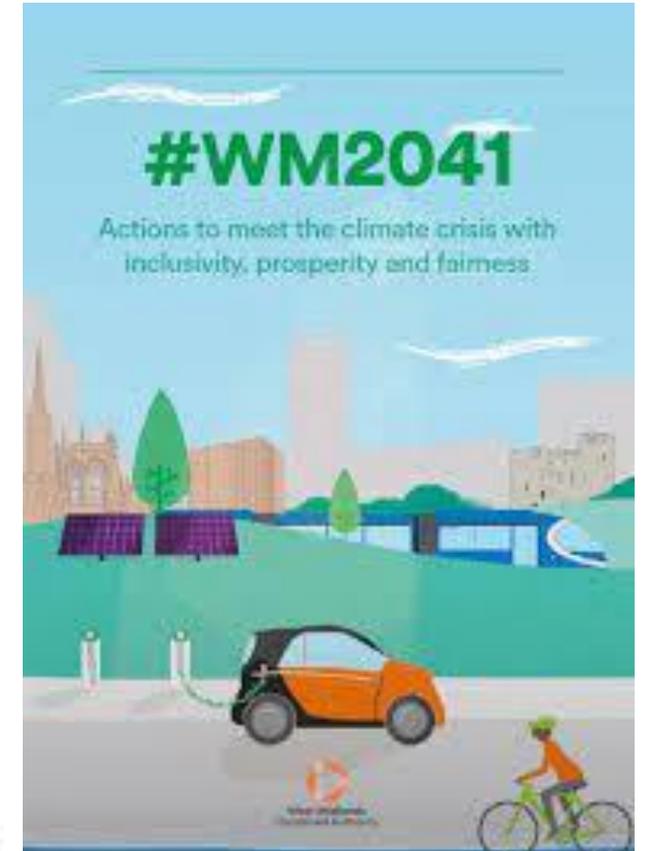
Themes

1. Is our interpretation of Government's focus in the innovation strategy sound?
2. How does this feel according to where the West Midlands' economy is at and the opportunities we see?
3. What does success look like for the West Midlands?
4. How partners in the West Midlands respond:
 - Practically: Champion what's effective; lessons from the West Midlands Innovation Programme?
 - Strategically: Be bold about "levelling-up" and working alongside Government and agencies.

A view on the Innovation Strategy...

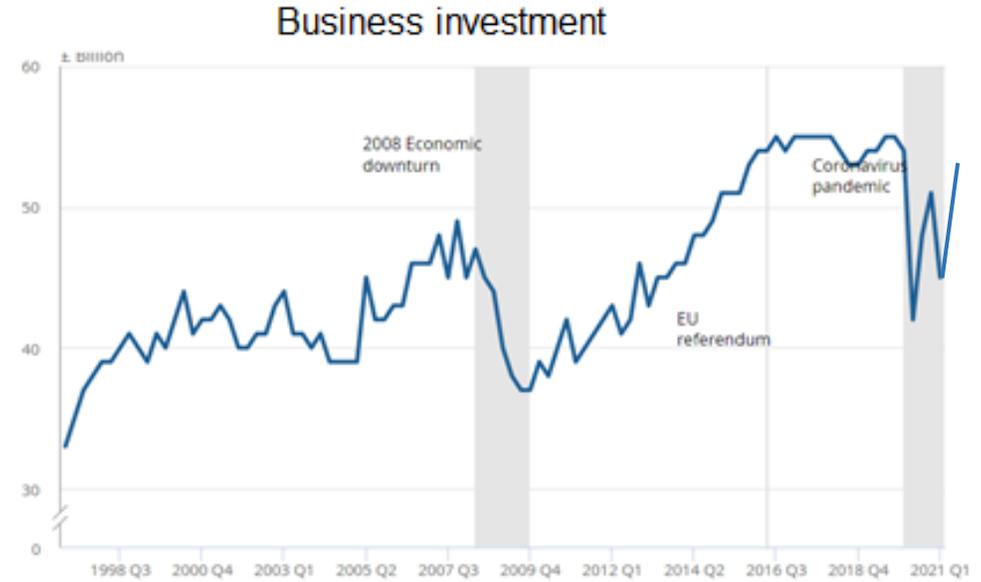
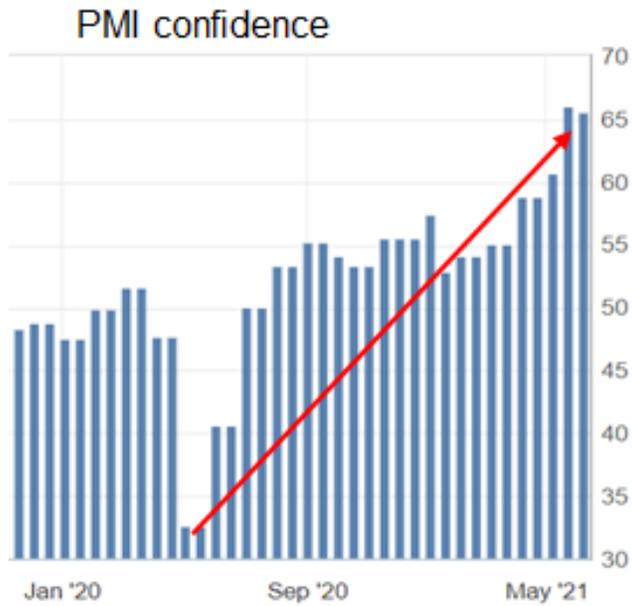


Drivers for innovation

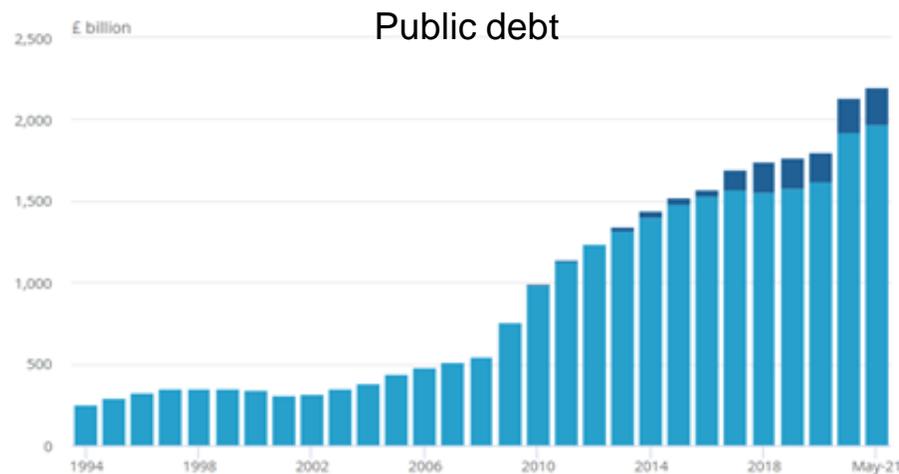


How does the economy feel?

Cyclical



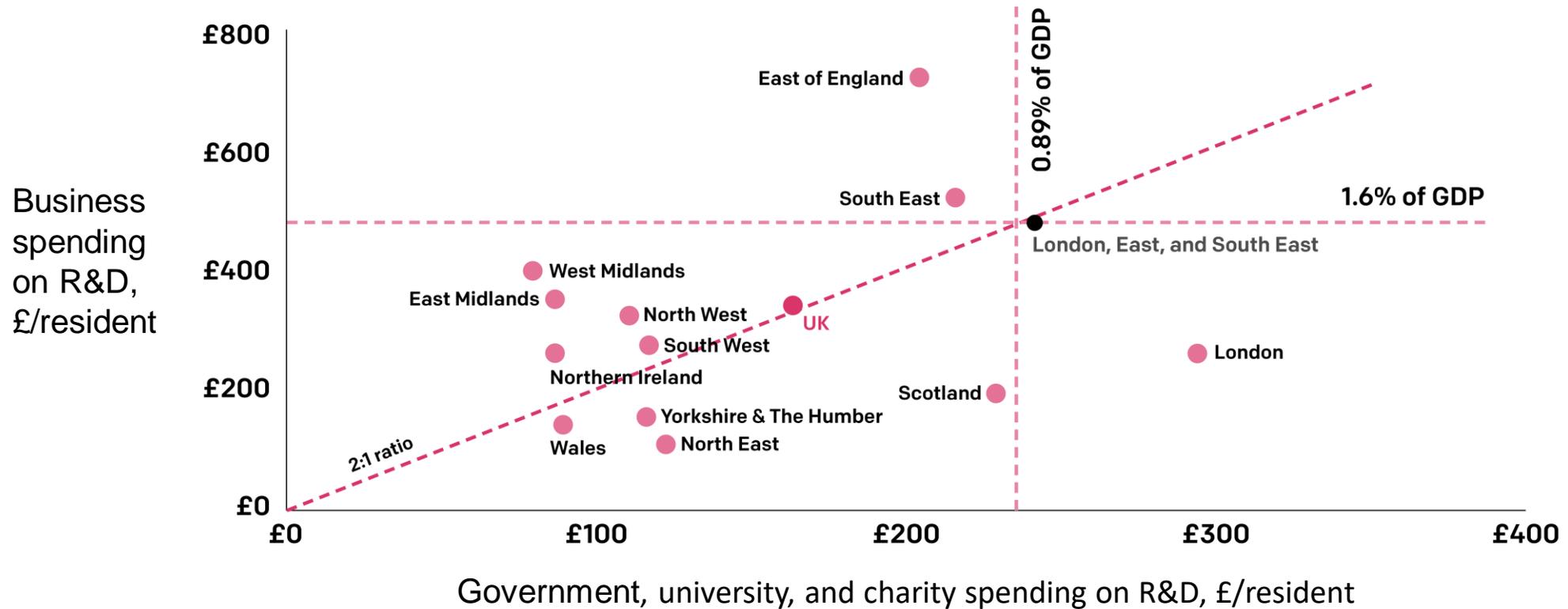
Structural



£14bn
productivity gap

Levelling-up R&D investment

Spending on R&D by NUTS1 region within the UK, 2016 (split by market-led (business) and non-market-led (govt and charity))



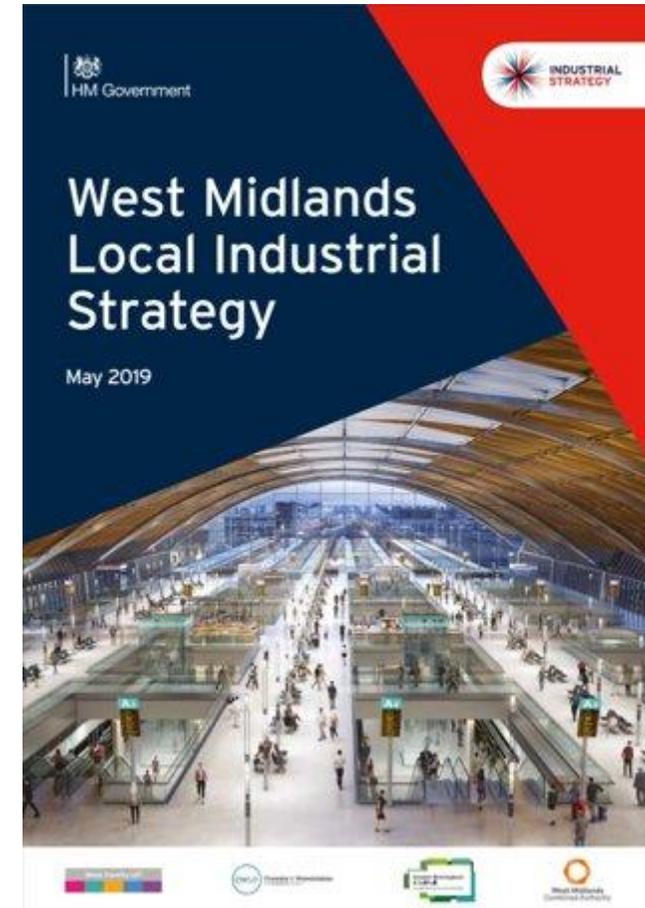
A golden thread of place?

“We will bring together different departments and work closely with the devolved administrations to agree a more detailed strategy for R&D in places, as a key element of the wider Levelling Up white paper due in the autumn. This is an opportunity to ensure that we are taking a comprehensive place-based approach to economic growth, with R&D one of the vital measures we can take.”

Unleashing Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quite strong in linking FDI and trade incentives to areas of regional competitive advantage.• Could go further on links between business finance and business support on innovation adoption.
People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UKRI (through Innovate UK) lead role in identifying critical innovation emerging skills gaps.• Help to Grow: Management programme to strengthen business leadership on adoption of innovation.
Institutions and Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mainly about making UKRI simpler for businesses to deal with.• <i>“Our evidence shows that we need to tailor R&D interventions to the needs of different places, a point echoed by the Place Advisory Group.... We will also work with local places to develop proposals for a cross-government approach to supporting the adoption and diffusion of innovation amongst local businesses, in places with less developed Research and Innovation capacity.”</i>
Missions and Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the region’s position on the seven technology families.• Collaborating on the ‘Innovation Missions Programme’• Further Prosperity Partnerships leveraging private investment in R&D

A clear plan for our sectors

Sector strengths			
Low carbon technology Energy and clean growth	Aerospace Precision component manufacturing	Logistics / transport technology Future mobility	Metals & materials Innovative supply chains
Life sciences Devices Diagnostics, real life testing	Professional skills Skills and a full services sector	Rail Digital rail High Speed 2	Construction Offsite modern manufacturing Land remediation
Creative Games, Next Gen content, process and product design and designer maker	Food & drink Machinery, food & fluid control tech, Photonics R&D	Automotive Battery development Drive train CAV	Tourism Shakespeare's England Commonwealth Games Business City of Culture



A 'West Midlands Plan for Growth'?

A focused proposition to Government which:

- Explains why economic recovery in the West Midlands is vital to the UK.
- Stresses this is being driven by private investment and confidence. The region has therefore prioritised clusters where significant investment is underway and there are opportunities to spur further growth.
- Provides insights into each of up to 5 clusters showing:
 - **What they are** – which companies are investing, what's the wider cluster (inc. supply chains), what's the nature of the region's competitive advantage, what are the cluster's major needs to amplify/accelerate growth?
 - **The publicly-funded interventions to catalyse growth.**
 - **Scale of impact** – what this means for jobs, wages, exports, etc.
- Quantifies the overall impact for the region.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

**Introduction to Breakout
Questions and how
responses will be used**

Jamie Elliott, WMCA

Breakout Questions

1. What factors influence businesses to invest in innovation?
2. Which national or regional programmes stand out as supporting the adoption and commercialisation of innovation?
3. What are the best measures of impact from public investment in innovation?
4. Are there examples of driving local growth by aligning innovation resources with other funding/policies (e.g. across skills programmes, business finance, land use, etc.)?





BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THANK YOU



CONTACT US



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