

Levelling -up through regional innovation clusters

Universities as central hubs in innovation clusters

Drawing on their research excellence and commercialisation expertise, research-intensive universities are

University of Birmingham • University of Bristol • University of Cambridge • University of Cardiff • University of Edinburgh • University of Exeter • University of Glasgow • Imperial College London • King's College London • University of Leeds • University of Liverpool • University of Manchester • University of Newcastle • University of Nottingham • University of Oxford • University of Southampton • University of Warwick • University of York

Step 1: Scaling funding streams with a proven track record of success

Scaling funding streams with a track record of delivering economic impact in the regions will be more efficient, with quicker returns, than creating new programmes from scratch. For an investment of just under £600m over three years, our plan would deliver a return of almost £2.7bn to the economy and wider society and unlock at least £678m in private investment .¹ As a priority, we propose investing in the following:

- x The Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF) underpins core innovation activities – leveraging private investment, building co-location spaces and commercialising promising tech. Large research-intensive universities deliver £12.46 of impact per £1 of HEIF funding, but allocations are capped at £4.3m per institution. A £10m supplement is distributed to those who can show this constrains their support for economic growth: raising this by £70m a year would deliver an additional return of £2.5bn over three years.
- x The UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF) funds state-of-the-art research centres

