



Department
for Education



Department for
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& Industrial Strategy

Chris Skidmore MP

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Dear Colleague,

Last week I was pleased to announce a package of measures backing new landmark partnerships between researchers and industry leaders as part of our modern Industrial Strategy, to take on the coming challenges for the next generation. These groundbreaking research projects worth nearly £720 million are a fantastic example of this, as we work towards our target of 2.4% of GDP to spent on R&D by 2027.

The package includes:

- Over £220m Government investment will go to 11 projects around the country, combined with nearly £500m funding from industry and charities, with UK universities collaborating with world-leading companies to develop and help commercialise new innovations for the benefit of the UK economy.
- Confirmation that universities and R&D intensive companies, including GlaxoSmithKlein and BAE Systems Constellium, are partnering to meet some of the biggest challenges in a generation, worth almost £30 million in funding from government and industry.

These projects align with the Industrial Strategy's Grand Challenges, from creating a cleaner, greener economy, to meeting the needs of the ageing society.

With almost 200,000 deaths from cancer a year, the need to address the disease becomes more pressing as people live longer. A state-of-the-art facility is to be established using new technologies to improve cancer diagnoses, treatment and prevention, which could lead to many lives being saved. After legislating to net zero carbon emissions by 2050, tackling emissions across industries is key to meeting this ambitious target. By focussing on developing light weight metals for vehicles, they will become more energy efficient, resulting in less emissions and saving money for consumers.

In earlier rounds from the UK Research Partnership Fund, Government and private co-investment from businesses and charities have delivered over £2.3 billion investment in pioneering research and development collaborations with universities. This is our modern Industrial Strategy in action: extending our reputation for excellence into the future as we invest record levels into R&D and strive to become the most innovative country in the world.

This investment comes as part of a [speech](#) I gave on 10 July reiterating our ambition to make the UK the most innovative economy in the world and highlight how raising public and private investment in R&D to 2.4% of GDP by 2027 will deliver that. This speech was the final in a landmark series of speeches I gave on the 'Road to 2.4%', covering [the priorities of securing the research talent of tomorrow](#), [the importance of international science collaboration](#) and [supporting emerging technologies](#).

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Skidmore". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

CHRIS SKIDMORE MP