

THE MJ

INWARD INVESTMENT GUIDE TO THE UK

In association with  12-15 March 2019, Cannes, France



FEATURING:

Yorkshire and Humberside, The West Midlands, The East Midlands
London, The South East, The South West, East of England
North West, North East, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland



Welcome to our investors' guide at MIPIM 2019



New Dock, Leeds, (formerly Clarence Dock)



New waterfront apartments along the popular Cardiff Bay in Wales.

in partnership with the British Property Federation to include case studies of investment opportunities in regeneration and infrastructure. Government departments, the Department for International Trade, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Cabinet Office have come together in the pavilion to showcase the UK's assets.

The UK's leading cities, regions and countries also have a strong presence. Manchester for example has been exhibiting at MIPIM for 20 years and is launching its redesigned pavilion which will include short films describing the city's development. Scotland also has a pavilion where it will be describing its investment opportunities covering smart cities, urban living, waterfronts, technology and education.

The Scottish Cities Alliance is at MIPIM with substantial investment opportunities in waterfront

Welcome to The MJ's Investment Guide to the UK produced by the publishers of The MJ (Municipal Journal) magazine, the UK's leading weekly news publication for local government leaders. The guide is distributed both within The MJ and at the 30th MIPIM property and regeneration show which takes place in Cannes, France March 12-15. We are delighted again to be a media partner to the UK Government Pavilion at MIPIM where copies of the guide will also be available.

The purpose of the guide is to give overseas investors at MIPIM a snapshot of the opportunities to be found within England's 12 regions and the devolved countries of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Further details about them can then be found at MIPIM at the UK Government Pavilion as well as at the various exhibition stands.

The UK Government Pavilion will be hosting three days of talks, seminars and discussions created



SSE Hydro multi-purpose indoor arena Glasgow, Scotland

development and sustainability-driven mixed-use regeneration schemes.

Other UK cities represented include Glasgow, Coventry, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, London boroughs, Newcastle, Nottingham, Stoke and Wirral as well as combined authorities.

For its 30th edition this year MIPIM is launching the Young Leaders Summit, staged as a major intergenerational debate on the future of cities and skills development. Through this event, focused entirely on upcoming generations, MIPIM plans to view the next 30 years from the perspective of sustainable growth. The summit will focus on the results and analysis of a survey conducted by the make.org institute on tomorrow's cities.

The Make.org survey covered more than 20,000 participants, men and women aged 16 to 34. The key topics were mobility, ecology, urban agriculture, energy, and quality of life. The results of this survey will be released on 13 March and themes chosen by the younger generation include promoting ecology on a daily basis and respecting the environment, increasing mobility, reinventing city-centre shopping and making buildings more eco-friendly.

MIPIM 2019 is being opened by Ban Ki-moon, UN secretary general from 2007-2016.



Titanic museum in Belfast



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How we are working with investors to deliver the UK's infrastructure

We are all aware of the challenges that face us over the coming years, in particular the need to deliver increasing housing numbers and the essential infrastructure that will create new and enlarged villages and towns.

We also know that large sums of money are required to build the hundreds of thousands of homes plus the roads, rail improvements, schools, medical facilities and other amenities that new and expanded villages and towns across the UK will need. This is why the UK government attends MIPIM, and our presence at the conference demonstrates the strength of government support for the real estate sector.

We need to work with international investors to unlock much-needed capital for new development that will improve productivity, and economic and social prosperity, across the UK.

The Department for International Trade's (DIT) Capital Investment team is the UK government's mechanism for attracting and supporting overseas investment into large-scale regeneration, infrastructure and energy projects. The team works with local public sector organisations as well as private sector developers, helping match opportunities to investors interested or already active in the UK.

There are many investors from right across the world who wish to invest here, and the opportunities for investors newly considering the UK are abundant. The UK has an open, liberal economy, world-class talent and business-friendly taxation.

Government support is substantial in terms of generating the right environments for capital investment and many investors have existing links through our

education system. Capital investment's Large Capital Investor Relations team works alongside our network of embassies all over the world to identify and nurture contacts with these investors, understanding their needs and interests and ensuring that they are the right fit for the UK.

We seek to identify long-term opportunities, weathering economic cycles and stay the course of the 10, 20 or even 30 years of a large-scale project. Frequently these investors are matched with UK institutions, combining expert knowledge of the locality with the necessary capital investment.

But the challenge to local authorities is, do you know what your potential investible propositions are? It is vital to understand what makes a project attractive to an overseas investor and how to package and present it in the right way. Doing this can dramatically accelerate the delivery process. By working closely with local authorities and local enterprise partnerships we can help maximise investment opportunities through our team of regional Capital Project Managers who are ready to navigate you through the process.

Our dedicated Invest in GREAT pavilion at MIPIM 2019 brings together wide-ranging talent and expertise from the Department for International Trade, Homes England, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government and Office of Government Property to promote and support what the UK has to offer.

So, take advantage of the skills and knowledge that exist within government to help with this; working together we can support the whole of the UK to build homes, attract businesses and expand their offer to the benefit of everyone in the UK. ●



The Rt Hon Liam Fox,
Secretary of State for
International Trade and
President of the Board
of Trade, outlines how
the UK government
is creating the right
environment for capital
investment

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London means business

London is maintaining its status as a world-leading business destination while laying the foundations for further growth

Brexit has brought uncertainty along with a long list of places vying to knock London off its perch as Europe's financial capital and business hub.

And yet study after study suggests it's cementing its position at the top.

Earlier last year it was named Europe's most attractive city for businesses and employees in Colliers International's Cities of Influence report with access to a highly skilled workforce a major factor.

The latest, from CBRE, ranked London number one in the EMEA region for technology clusters. Figures from London & Partners, the mayor's official promotional agency, show London has attracted over £4bn of venture capital investment in technology firms since 2016 – around double the amount invested in the whole of Germany.

If the housing market is any kind of barometer for the capital's economy, the signs are bright.

Latest analysis, also from CBRE, shows significant recovery in the inner London property market and rapid growth in outer boroughs. Major investment in regeneration and infrastructure are behind the boom, it says, with areas such as Waltham Forest and Barking and Dagenham feeling the benefit of renewed confidence.

Improved connectivity both within London and between the capital and the rest of the UK continues to be the backbone of success. Crossrail – Europe's biggest infrastructure project – will add 10% to central London's rail capacity when its first section, the Elizabeth line, opens in 2019.

Meanwhile, the opening of new station at Old Oak in north London in 2026 will connect the Elizabeth line and National Rail services to HS2.

The draft London Plan, due to be adopted next year, sets out proposals for a number of major transport projects including Crossrail 2, which would bring much needed improvements to

services into the South East. In each case, the plans go hand in hand with a strategy to drive economic growth, unlock potential in under-invested areas that offer better affordability and in doing so help to accommodate the demand that London attracts.

London accounts for more than a fifth of the UK's economic output and has unique strengths in specialist fields like finance, law, business services, technology and creative industries, as well as attracting more than 19 million visitors from around the world every year and providing a gateway to the rest of the UK.

The London Plan predicts population growth of 70,000 a year with overall numbers rising from 8.9 million to 10.8 million by 2041. During the same period some 49,000 new jobs are expected to be created annually.

Central London is identified as vital to the city's economic success. The Central Activities Zone – taking in areas such as the South Bank and West End – and the northern part of the Isle of Dogs are together described in the Plan as 'one of the most connected places in the world'.

'Crossrail and the Thameslink programme will significantly increase the number of people within 45 minutes' travel time of central London, improving access to the labour market and the competitiveness of businesses,' it says.

By 2041 the area will accommodate more than 367,000 extra jobs and 3.5 million sq m of office space.

Investment across outer boroughs will broaden London's appeal to investors and businesses. A number of 'opportunity areas' throughout London have been identified and earmarked for new homes, employment sites and infrastructure.

The biggest area by far is north and south of the Thames Estuary where redevelopment is expected

to bring more than 250,000 homes and 200,000 jobs. ●

INFORMATION



The London Economic Action Partnership (LEAP), which operates through the Greater London Authority, is the local enterprise partnership for London. The LEAP brings entrepreneurs and business together with the Mayor and London Councils to identify strategic actions to support and lead economic growth and job creation in the capital.

www.lep.london

Magnet for growth

Luxury apartments at Brighton Marina, East Sussex

The South East offers a winning combination of great connectivity, a diverse economy and highly skilled workforce and some of the most desirable places to live in the country

It has the largest population and economy in the UK outside London and this year its growth is expected to outstrip the capital.

The South East has an abundance of strengths, from high levels of education and skills and booming business start up rates to its concentration of jobs in professional and technical services.

These 'key ingredients' will see the region deliver the UK's highest economic growth rates in 2019, according to PwC.

Its economy is worth around £350bn and the South East is home to dozens of world-leading brands, from American Express to Nestlé.

Part of the attraction is its connectivity with a number of ports (including Dover, Europe's most popular passenger port) along with Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and Luton airports on its doorstep as well as easy access to major motorways and fast rail links into London.

But for many firms and investors, it's the region's long-standing reputation for excellence in a diverse range of sectors such as aerospace, pharmaceuticals, IT, biotech, healthcare, life sciences and high tech engineering, as well as creative industries, that make it so appealing.

The South East's population of almost nine million people is spread across thriving coastal cities like Brighton and Southampton – the first port of call for Far East trade.

It takes in fast-growing conurbations like Reading – a hub for technology-based businesses that's expected to be the UK's top city for GVA growth by 2020 – and Milton Keynes. It also includes the city of Oxford, whose world famous university alone is estimated to be worth £7.1bn to the economy.

Oxford and Milton Keynes, together with Cambridge, form a growth corridor taking in some of the UK's most productive, successful and innovative towns and cities with leading edge research and high tech firms.

Assets like this make the South East a magnet for investors – in 2016 the region accounted for 11.5% of foreign direct investment, bettered only by London.

It also currently has the UK's joint lowest unemployment rate, at 3.4%, and a highly skilled workforce. For example, within the Enterprise M3 local enterprise partnership area, which covers much of Surrey and Hampshire, some 42.4% of adults have an NVQ Level 4 qualification or above.

The strength of the region's workforce is reflected

in average earnings. A Centre for Cities report published in May revealed that the South East accounts for five of the top 10 highest earning places: Reading, Crawley, Milton Keynes, Slough and Oxford.

Aside from outperforming the rest of the UK when it comes to economic growth, the region's population is also rising. Between 2016 and 2026 it's expected to grow by 6.4% to more than 9.6 million, according to the Office for National Statistics.

In order to accommodate that growth, new settlements will be created. It's telling that of the 200,000 homes being created through the Government's Garden Communities programme, almost half fall within areas covered by the South East Local Enterprise Partnership at East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Medway, Thurrock and Southend.

The sheer volume and variety of job opportunities on offer combined with quality of life it provides – for example, the region includes a national park, numerous Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and green belt – add to the demand in what is already a densely populated region.

It is hoped this will take some pressure off house prices in the South East, which are the highest in the UK outside of London. ●

INFORMATION



THE SOUTH EAST LEP

South East LEP

East Sussex, Essex, Kent, Medway, Southend and Thurrock: www.southeastlep.com

Enterprise M3 LEP

Most of Hampshire and Surrey: www.enterprisem3.org.uk

Coast to Capital LEP

London Borough of Croydon, East Surrey, Gatwick Diamond, Brighton & Hove, Lewes and West Sussex: www.coast2capital.org.uk

Solent LEP

Portsmouth, Southampton, the Isle of Wight and

M27 corridor: www.solentlep.org.uk

Thames Valley Berkshire LEP

Bracknell Forest, Reading, Slough, West Berkshire, the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham: www.thamesvalleyberkshire.co.uk

Buckinghamshire Thames Valley LEP:

www.buckstvllep.co.uk

Hertfordshire LEP: www.hertfordshirelep.com

Oxfordshire LEP: www.oxfordshirelep.com

Thurrock

Gets Business Does Business Means Business

With £20 billion of planned investment in new jobs, homes and infrastructure, and 1,000 acres of land ready for business development, Thurrock boasts unrivalled development opportunities right on London's doorstep.

Located immediately to the east of the capital and with 18 miles of Thames riverfront, Thurrock is already home to some of the most exciting industries and organisations in the country, including the internationally-renowned Royal Opera House and three international ports at the heart of global trade and logistics.

The borough benefits from excellent strategic transport links, with six international airports and 18 million people within an hour's drive of Thurrock. It is also just 30 minutes from central London by train.

It is one of the largest growth areas in the UK and already has major regeneration projects in the pipeline, centred around six growth hubs in Purfleet, Grays, Lakeside and West Thurrock, Tilbury, London Gateway and Thames Enterprise Park, and set to create 24,500 jobs.

At the heart of the ambitious plans for Thurrock's future is Thurrock Council – the unitary authority looking to unlock the borough's potential through high quality,

£575 million capital programme

- £4m - environment
- £11m - education
- £45m - health and community
- £152m - transport
- £163m - regeneration
- £200m - housing

community-driven and infrastructure-led development.

The council is already underway with the call for sites and issues and options for a new Local Plan, and is now actively seeking developers interested in investing in the dynamic heart of the Thames Estuary.

With the authority achieving a balanced budget for the next four years and having one of the top performing planning teams in the country, Thurrock really is open for business.



Ambition

Council leading the way with £575 million for infrastructure-first approach



Aerial view of Thurrock

Lyn Carpenter, Thurrock Council's Chief Executive, explains: "No other top tier local authority is in as secure a financial position as us, which gives us the opportunity to do things differently, with a focus on high quality, community-driven and infrastructure-led development that will facilitate future growth and set the standard for others to follow.

"We are all incredibly excited by the sheer scale of what is happening and are working hard to unlock Thurrock's growth potential while protecting and enhancing existing communities.

"Whether it be the £1 billion plans for a state-of-the-art media village and 2,850 new homes right on the River Thames in Purfleet, the 1,000 high-quality homes we are planning to build across the borough through our own development company or proposals to transform the station

quarter in Grays, our regeneration agenda is huge.

"By working closely with partners and investors, we now have the ability to create a borough where people of all ages can achieve their aspirations, and are proud to work and play, live and stay.

"We are really looking forward to exhibiting at the London Pavilion at MIPIM this year and having a platform to once again demonstrate that Thurrock gets business, does business and means business."

The council is now laying the foundations for future growth with its ambitious £575 million programme of capital projects over the next three years.

Steve Cox, Thurrock Council's Director of Place, said: "While a significant majority of housing

and opportunity

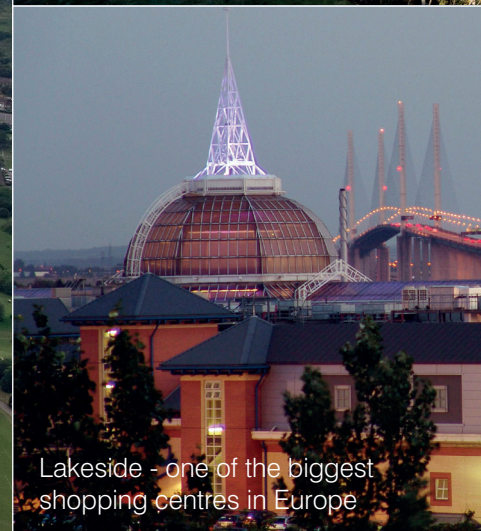
million capital programme that sets the tone
growth



 thurrock.gov.uk



Royal Opera House at High House Production Park, Purfleet



Lakeside - one of the biggest shopping centres in Europe



Port of Tilbury

Thurrock – THE place for business

- 24,500 new jobs
- 30,000 new homes
- 1,000 acres of land ready for business development

required in Thurrock is from growth of existing communities, we recognise that the need for 30,000 new homes in the borough will be of concern to some of our residents.

“We are lucky to already have considerable developer interest in Thurrock, which means we will demand the very best growth that enhances the borough, creates great places – both new and existing – and provides the housing and

infrastructure that our communities and residents deserve.

“Together with our partners, we are investing more than £70million to create over 3,500 new school places across the borough over the coming years, and also have ambitious plans for four new integrated medical centres.

“Through all of our projects, it is about how we enhance the borough for today’s residents and provide modern, well thought-out solutions to the 21st century challenges that we face.

“We look forward to working with developers to shape their plans.”

As well as benefiting its residents, Thurrock’s infrastructure plans are vital to economic growth in the wider south Essex area and the rest of the country.

Mr Cox added: “We recognise the significance of the infrastructure we’ve already got in Thurrock, which is important to the Thames Estuary, important to London, but also important to the wider UK economy. None more so than our three international ports, which together account for 85 per cent of the Port of London’s trade.

“The A13 corridor is another example and a vital part of the transport network in Thurrock and the south Essex area. Our £79million project to widen the A13, which is one of the largest local authority-managed road schemes in the

country, will create a continuous three-lane road in both directions between the M25 and Europe’s most modern container port at DP World London Gateway.

“This project will boost the economy, helping businesses to increase productivity, reduce costs and create more jobs. That joined up thinking, the benefits for private sector businesses and our relationships with them are all really important to us.

“We’ve made it very clear that we’re a council that gets business, does business and means business.”

Get in touch about the exciting development and investment opportunities in Thurrock.

Email: place@thurrock.gov.uk

Website: thurrock.gov.uk/growth



Dartmouth from the castle on the estuary of the river dart devon

A region of contrasts

It's a haven for those looking to escape the rat race but the South West is in the fast lane when it comes to innovation

For many people, the South West conjures up images of idyllic seaside locations, rural retreats and an altogether slower pace of life.

It's true that this vast region's stunning coastline and countryside make it one of the UK's most popular visitor destinations and tourism is worth £6bn a year.

But the South West is an area of contrasts where both traditional industries and cutting edge sectors are thriving to create a regional economy worth around £200bn a year.

It has more coastline than any other region – 700 miles stretching from Poole to the Severn Estuary – so perhaps it's no surprise that its ports are a major part of the economy and contribute £16.4bn a year.

To the north of the region in Cheltenham is the focal point of the largest concentration of cyber security activities in Europe. Cyber Park is not only the home of GCHQ's headquarters but also a growing number of organisations that form Cheltenham's cyber cluster.

Directly south of that lies the West of England Combined Authority area that takes in the historic cities of Bristol and Bath along with surrounding communities. This part of the region alone is worth £31bn a year and is home to 43,000 businesses, many of which are in high value sectors such as advanced aerospace and engineering, defence, digital and high tech, and green technologies.

The area can also boast the highest survival rate for SMEs in England.

Meanwhile, to the east of Bristol and Bath, the county of Wiltshire is capitalising on its location, lower commercial rents than the South East and easy access to London, Oxford, Cardiff and the Midlands via the M4 and fast rail links. More than 30,000 businesses are located there, generating £18.3bn a year. Some

61% of the 700,000 population, more than a quarter of who live in Swindon, are of working age and 39% are qualified to NVQ Level 4 or above.

The southernmost areas of the region – Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset – are renowned hotspots for tourism. It's here that you'll find the English Riviera, a 22-mile stretch of coastline taking in resorts, rocky coves and picturesque villages along with the Jurassic Coast, moorland national parks and medieval towns.

But their economies have diversified in recent years and sectors such as agritech and environmental industries have come to the fore.

For example, the number of enterprises based in the Heart of the South West LEP area, which covers Devon, Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay, has increased by 12.3% since 2011.

The city of Plymouth, famous for being the largest naval base in Western Europe, is an important centre for marine manufacturing and accounts for almost 10% of England's marine industry.

Although the South West's 23,800 km² represents 18% of the total area of England, making it bigger in area than both Wales and Northern Ireland, its population of 5.5 million people makes up just 10% of the country's total.

It has the lowest population density in England. But this, again, disguises contrasts across the region. Bristol is among the country's top 10 largest cities while Plymouth is home to a quarter of a million people.

The South West also includes sizable, growing towns such as Bournemouth, which together with neighbouring Poole and Christchurch has a population of 400,000 and is set to grow in the coming years thanks to major regeneration plans. ●

INFORMATION

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE SOUTH WEST

CIOS LEP:
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
 ⓘ www.cioslep.com

Heart of the South West LEP:
 Devon, Somerset, Plymouth and Torbay
 ⓘ www.heartofswlep.co.uk

West of England LEP:
 Bristol, Bath, Weston-Super-Mare
 ⓘ www.westofenglandlep.co.uk

Swindon and Wiltshire LEP:
 ⓘ www.swlep.co.uk/

GFirst LEP:
 Gloucestershire:
 ⓘ www.gfirstlep.com

Sedgemoor sets its sights on more international investment

The number of national and international brands with a base in Sedgemoor is impressive for a relatively small district in the South West of England but the Council has its sights set on accommodating many more in the coming decade. Over the last ten years, this progressive, pro-growth local authority has risen to the top of the national league table for its performance in dealing with major planning applications and delivered 4000 new jobs, 3000 new homes and 1.83m sq. ft. of employment space. It has seen significant investment from the likes of Morrisons, Scania, Avon and Somerset Police, EDF Energy, Mulberry and leading hotel chains. Now, with one of the UK's most strategically important land parcels gearing up for development as an innovation campus with Enterprise Zone status, the Council's aspiration to be at the forefront of sustainable growth in the Region is within range.

During the annual Sedgemoor Business Conference at the end of last year, Salamanca Group, who own the 635-hectare site earmarked for the campus, unveiled a new name and vision for the development. Gravity will be a connective, intelligent and sustainable campus, geared for a cleaner future and capable of attracting some of the world's most innovative businesses. The Group's aim is to attract foreign direct investment as well as nurturing local and regional businesses.

Plans for the campus answer a question that might have been in some minds, outside the District, about what life might be like for it at the end of what is currently the largest construction project in Europe, the building of Hinkley Point C (HPC) power station. The Council has always been determined to harness the opportunities presented by HPC to augment its



already sound record for growth and to leave a legacy of skilled people to fill new employment sites supported by new homes, schools and road improvements.

In addition to a pro-growth council, Sedgemoor has the advantage of its geography. Being midway between Exeter and Bristol, it has excellent connections by road, air and rail while the surrounding countryside and nearby coast offer great quality of life. An impressive portfolio of employment sites and development land at vantage points close to the M5 include Bridgwater Gateway - a mixed-use commercial development of more than 40-hectares offering industrial and office space as well as retail and a hotel. The well-established

Isleport Business Park has a second phase that will almost double the employment space and Phase Two of the Somerset Energy Innovation Centre is almost complete with a third phase planned.

Alongside Energy, the District's strong suits are logistics and distribution, food and drink, new technology, agriculture and tourism. Bucking the national trend, Sedgemoor has seen investment and growth in the retail sector most notably with the extension of Bridgwater Retail Park including stores for M&S Simply Food and Lidl. It is well placed to press home these advantages and compete amongst the best in the UK for inward investment.



West Midlands Region



Paradise Project, Urban Regeneration

A regional renaissance

Record levels of investment and the promise of exciting things to come are making the West Midlands the place to be

'Developing the regional economy underpins our ambitions – not only to deliver growth that all citizens benefit from, but also, as the export centre of the UK that will power the economy after Brexit.'

No one can deny the West Midlands Combined Authority has bold ambitions. This excerpt from its State of the Region report, published last July, is born out of a renewed sense of confidence that the region is now realising its potential.

The region's population is 5.8 million and it includes the cities of Birmingham, Coventry, Wolverhampton and Stoke-on-Trent. The West Midlands has long been known as the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution and since the 20th century for its manufacturing prowess as the centre of the UK's car industry.

Manufacturing continues to be a vital part of the economy – accounting for 15% of its output – with major names such as Jaguar Land Rover investing heavily in the region.

Having seen its performance lag behind the national average for a number of years, the tide is turning. Or as the combined authority puts it, 'the West Midlands economy is undergoing a renaissance'.

It is the fastest growing region in the UK for goods exports and growth in both GVA per head and job creation is outstripping the national picture. It is also the strongest region for foreign direct investment and business start-ups – some 27,550 firms were created in 2016.

The West Midlands is now a major centre for areas such as business, professional and financial services, which account for around half of its GVA, and engineering, transportation and storage, construction and energy.

The driving force for the region is England's second city, Birmingham, which has undergone a

radical transformation in the last 25 years thanks to major regeneration of the city centre.

A series of award-winning schemes have helped to create a vibrant international city with high quality public realm, much improved transport infrastructure and connectivity and modern workplaces that have attracted international names like HSBC to its financial district.

Birmingham's journey took another major step forward when it was chosen to host the Commonwealth Games in 2022 – a move that is expected to boost the economy by a further £750m.

The news came the same month that Coventry discovered it had been selected to be UK City of Culture in 2021, an accolade that should raise the city's profile and attract new investment.

Announcements like these have raised confidence in the region and the combined authority is aiming to capitalise on that.

Since its launch in 2016 it has brought a fresh impetus, bringing the West Midlands' 18 local authorities and four local enterprise partnerships together and fostering a more joined up approach to growth. In particular, it has put the focus on addressing skills gaps and progress is being made with the number of people without qualifications dropping by more than 40,000 between 2016-17.

The combined authority is also working to improve the supply of new homes to complement investment in infrastructure and employment sites. Some 215,000 will be built by 2031.

One of the region's competitive advantages is its location in the heart of the country and the access it has to motorway networks, international airports and improved rail services thanks to HS2.

Birmingham Airport, which welcomed more than 13 million passengers in 2017, will be the country's

first and only HS2-connected airport by 2026, with huge growth potential. The new high speed lines will reduce average journey times from Birmingham to London to just 49 minutes while Birmingham to Manchester will be cut from one hour and 28 minutes to 41 minutes. ●

INFORMATION



CWLEP
Coventry & Warwickshire: www.cwlep.com

Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP
www.gbslepgrowthhub.co.uk

Black Country LEP
www.blackcountrylep.co.uk

Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire LEP
www.stokestaffslep.org.uk

The Marches LEP
Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin
www.marcheslep.org.uk

Worcestershire LEP
www.wlep.co.uk



Jubilee Campus, Nottingham University



East Midland Train



Boston town centre, Lincolnshire

Linking learning with business

The East Midlands offers many strategic advantages and its many universities are helping to make it a centre for innovation

INFORMATION

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership: www.llep.org.uk

D2N2:
Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire
www.d2n2lep.org

Greater Lincolnshire LEP:
www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk

South East Midlands LEP:
Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and boroughs and districts of Northampton, Kettering, Corby, South Northamptonshire and Daventry
www.semlep.com

The East Midlands could be described as the crossroads of England given its location at the centre of the country's strategic transport network. It shares borders with Yorkshire and Humber, the West Midlands, South East and East of England and covers six counties across an area of more than 15,600 km².

The region takes in a large chunk of the Peak District, the UK's first national park and the location of Chatsworth House, Sherwood Forest, the Lincolnshire Wolds – designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – and Derwent Valley Mills, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

But the East Midlands is perhaps most associated with the urban areas along the M1 corridor that account for a significant proportion of its 4.8 million population: Nottingham, Derby, Leicester and at its southernmost point, the town of Northampton.

Nottingham's economy expected to grow by 12.7% over the next decade while Leicester should 11.1% and Derby by 7.4%, according to a recent study by law firm Irwin Mitchell and the Centre for Economics and Business Research.

It also includes the market towns of Mansfield, Newark and Grantham, the cathedral city of Lincoln, the port town of Boston on the Lincolnshire coast and Loughborough, best known for its university which is consistently ranked among the top 10 higher education institutions in the country.

Towns such as Northampton, Corby, Wellingborough and Kettering in Northamptonshire are all fast-growing areas thanks, in part, to their proximity and rail and road links to London and the South East.

The region also benefits from its own international airport in north Leicestershire, close to Nottingham, Derby and Leicester. Already the UK's largest for dedicated airfreight, East Midlands Airport is used by 4.2 million passengers, serves more than 90 destinations and has plans to grow over the coming years. The East

Midlands has long been a major centre of manufacturing and it represents around 16.5% of the region's annual £100bn GVA. Derby's links with the rail industry go back more than 175 years.

The region's transport equipment manufacturing, which includes aerospace, automotive and rail, employs more than 26,000 people, includes international names such as Toyota, Rolls Royce and Bombardier, and generates £2.4bn a year. Linking in with its strong agricultural sector; food and drink manufacturing employs 57,000 people and is worth £3.6bn to the economy.

But it's also at the cutting edge of research and development for many of these industries. For example, the town of Daventry is the location of iCon, a national centre of excellence for sustainable construction and green technologies.

The Institute of Aerospace at the University of Nottingham is just one of the institution's areas of expertise with other key strengths being medicine and scientific research. More than 80% of the university's research is ranked 'world-leading' or 'internationally excellent'.

It's one of nine higher education institutions in the region with Nottingham Trent University, University of Derby, University of Leicester, De Montfort University, Loughborough University, the University of Northampton, the University of Lincoln and Bishop Grosseteste University College, Lincoln. Together they have more than 150,000 students, perform 18% of the East Midlands' research and development and have helped to establish links with towns and cities around the world.

For example, the University of Nottingham has campuses in Malaysia and China. The latter, in the city of Ningbo, serves 8,000 students and has enabled the university to build extensive partnerships with some of China's biggest companies and enable SMEs from the East Midlands to build links with the country. ●



Tour de force

Yorkshire and the Humber has seen its profile rise as more and more people wake up to the region's strengths and potential

Yorkshire and the Humber offers a region of contrasts, from major cities to its famous landscape and a multitude of world heritage sites.

Bounded by the North Sea to the East and North East, it borders the North West and East Midlands and covers counties of North, West and South Yorkshire and parts of North Lincolnshire.

Within its 15,420km² are three of England's top 10 largest cities – Leeds, Sheffield and Bradford – and while the region boasts a proud industrial past it now has one of the most diverse economies in the UK worth £112bn in 2016.

Leeds is the UK's largest centre for financial and business services and the biggest higher education cluster outside London. The Leeds city region – which includes Bradford, Wakefield and Huddersfield – has the fastest growing private sector in the UK and is the largest contributor to UK GDP in the Northern Powerhouse.

Sheffield is a leading centre for manufacturing,

advanced engineering as well as having a thriving digital and creative industries sector. Meanwhile, Bradford is one of the country's youngest cities and is a hub for areas like advanced manufacturing, digital industries and logistics.

On the east coast, the ports of Hull, Goole, Grimsby and Immingham handle more than 65 million tonnes of cargo a year, support 33,000 jobs and are worth £2.2bn to the national economy. After years of decline, Hull has undergone something of a renaissance in recent years – buoyed by its status as UK Capital of Culture in 2017 – with numerous regeneration projects transforming the city centre and attracting new investment. One of the region's biggest success stories is the growth of tourism.

Aside from assets like the historic city of York, the Yorkshire Dales, Bronte Country and a stunning and varied coastline, more recent developments such as its growing programme of festivals, Yorkshire

Sculpture Park and the Tour de Yorkshire have seen the industry grow by 14% since 2011 to £8bn a year. There are 38 Local Enterprise Partnerships across England. They are business led partnerships between local authorities and local private sector businesses. They play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and job creation, improve infrastructure and raise workforce skills within the local area.

LEP boards are led by a business chair and board members are local leaders of industry (including SMEs), educational institutions and the public sector. In Yorks & Humber the LEPs are Humber, York, North Yorkshire and East Riding, Greater Lincolnshire and Leeds City Region. East Riding of Yorkshire Council is a member of two Local Enterprise Partnerships; the Humber LEP and York, North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP. The government has announced that LEP overlaps will end. ●



Burnsall Village, Yorkshire Dales National park



Hull



Bolton Abbey Yorkshire Dales

Leeds City Region

Stand R7.A18

City Park, Bradford



Knaresborough, Harrogate



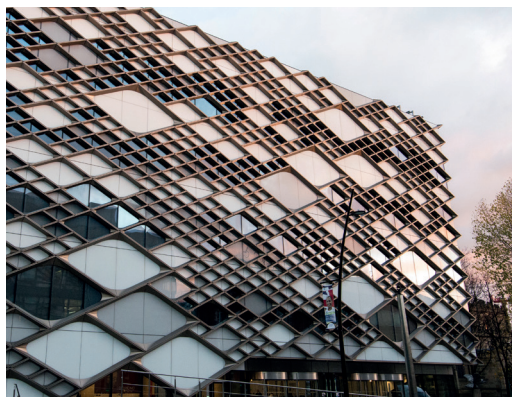
Opportunity. Connection. Freedom.

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The Global innovation corridor

Sheaf square Sheffield, south-yorkshire



The iconic new landmark The University of Sheffield



Sheffield Park Gardens



Sheffield-south-yorkshire-panoramic-view

Sheffield City Region, at the heart of the United Kingdom, is super-connected, at the cutting edge of innovation - and a great place to live.

The region is home to the UK's first national park, two world-leading universities, thriving urban centres and rural hamlets, knitted together by strong business, transport and economic links, Founded on a proud history of manufacturing, engineering and industry, the Sheffield City Region (SCR) is now building on this heritage to become a region synonymous with advanced manufacturing, advanced wellbeing, and excellence in sectors including digital, automotive and aerospace.

Dan Jarvis, Mayor of the Sheffield City Region, said: 'Investments from companies such as McLaren, Rolls Royce and Boeing are testament to our growing international reputation for excellence.

'Such investments demonstrate confidence in our strong manufacturing heritage, confidence in our workforce's ability to deliver, and confidence in the cutting-edge collaborations between university and business that enable us to lead the world.

'These facilities are also part of our growing Global Innovation Corridor, a connected set of research and business interactions based on our advanced manufacturing and engineering strengths. The opportunities are limitless.'

The Global Innovation Corridor will link assets such as the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District, the University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, Sheffield Hallam University's

Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre, the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park, the National College for High Speed Rail, Barnsley's Digital Media Centre and Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

Director of estates at Sheffield Hallam University, Daniel Ladbury, said: 'Our industrial partnerships allow us to address the skills gap and helps business grow. Our research is characterised by a focus on real world impact – addressing the health, cultural, economic and social challenges facing society today.

'Our property developments will support these ambitions by creating exciting new spaces for students, staff, visitors and businesses to better engage with the University and each other, supporting the activity of the City Region.'

Owen Michaelson, chief executive officer at Harworth Group plc, which is based in the SCR, said: 'The region has a big story to sell in two respects; the quality of the assets it has at its disposal, including the Advanced Manufacturing Park and Doncaster Sheffield Airport, alongside what it contributes to the quality of discussion and key policy matters such as placemaking and infrastructure.'

Want to learn more about investing in the Sheffield City Region? Visit the website at:

www.scrinvest.com or follow @scrinvest on Twitter for regular updates.

INFORMATION

THE GLOBAL INNOVATION CORRIDOR WILL LINK ASSETS TO ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND INNOVATION:

- 1 University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre
- 1 Sheffield Hallam University's Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre
- 1 Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park
- 1 National College for High Speed Rail
- 1 Barnsley's Digital Media Centre
- 1 Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

Discover the Sheffield City Region, world-leading, innovative, and super-connected, at the heart of the UK

Located at the beating heart of the UK, Sheffield City Region is innovative, super-connected and a great place to live.

Our region comprises a dynamic core city, thriving towns and market towns, fabulous countryside and a significant rural economy.

With an economic output of more than £31bn per year, 68,000 businesses and two world-leading universities, as well as distinct specialisms in advanced manufacturing and advanced health and wellbeing, we're at the forefront of innovation and a major driver of economic growth.

Mayor Dan Jarvis' vision for a **Global Innovation Corridor** is now set to drive our growth story even further.

He said: "Where once coal powered our economy, now that economy is powered by advances in manufacturing, engineering and aerospace. Indeed, more people now work at the Advanced Manufacturing Park, on the site of the former Orgreave colliery, than they did in the pit during coal's heyday.

"Sheffield City Region's strong heritage in manufacturing industry is now reshaping manufacturing for the 21st century. And this couldn't be more evident than in the companies growing our Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District (Amid), at the heart of the emerging Global Innovation Corridor.

"What is emerging is a compelling story of a resurgent region. And we're adding exciting new chapters to our region's great innovation, research and "making" story."

Focused around the SCR's research and design assets and cutting-edge partnerships with two world-leading universities, the Global Innovation Corridor will be a global magnet for people, industry and innovators.

For the first time, it will link assets such as the Advanced Manufacturing Innovation District, the University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, Sheffield Hallam University's advanced Wellbeing Research Centre, the Sheffield Olympic Legacy Park, the National College for High Speed Rail, Barnsley's Digital Media Centre and Doncaster Sheffield Airport.

Mayor Jarvis added: "The Global Innovation Corridor will be based on our region's capabilities. It will connect the region more effectively to Doncaster Sheffield Airport- the UK's fastest-growing airport- attract new global investors, and link our business community to the opportunities of being part of global supply chains.

"This is a region with its best days in front of it, rather than behind. We're providing the right assets, developing the right people and growing and attracting the right businesses. And we're doing it by focusing on what we're good at."

Sheffield City Region offers a wealth of business opportunities, great connectivity and a spectacular setting in which to live, work and invest.

Our specialist inward investment experts work hard to help organisations reduce their risk and enjoy a streamlined way of doing business. We can offer competitive property and employment costs, an extremely supportive industry environment, and a well-qualified and committed workforce.

Global businesses such as McLaren, Boeing, Rolls Royce and Amazon are among the many international companies which have already seen the benefits of locating at the heart of our region.

Find out more about locating here online at www.scrinvest.com/MIPIM

Sheffield City Region Inward Investment

11 Broad Street West, Sheffield, United Kingdom, S1 2BQ

W: scrinvest.com E: enquiries@scrinvest.com T: +44 (0)114 220 3444



Sheffield City Region

Selby District – at the heart of Yorkshire’s growth

Situated at the centre of Yorkshire’s growing economy, the Selby district is playing an important role in the success of the Leeds City Region. We’ve got big plans for opening up brand new business space. With great road and rail connections across the UK, it’s more affordable here than our neighbouring areas too, which means you get more for your money.

Our businesses are supported by a really well-qualified workforce. Our population’s growing at the fastest rate in North Yorkshire. We’re a great place to enjoy life, with a fantastic mix of market towns and picturesque villages – that’s why we’re taking centre stage in this year’s international Tour de Yorkshire cycling race.

House prices are lower here compared to our big city neighbours but with all the benefits of being really well connected. Families benefit from top quality education in one of the safest areas of England.

A great place to do business, supported by a fantastic quality of life.

Find out more: selby.gov.uk



SELBY DISTRICT MEANS
GROWTH
AT THE HEART OF YORKSHIRE



“The success of Sherburn as a destination has proved that businesses get much for more their investment than elsewhere in the region.”
Jeremy Nolan, Glentool Director, Sherburn2 development.



“We love Selby. The town’s full of history. New cafes and restaurants are opening all over and the town’s transport links – and therefore catchment area – are superb.”
Nicola Mooney, Director, The Escapologist bar.



“We don’t under-estimate the importance of working in Selby, as there’s a motivated workforce and superb strategic communications.”
James Earl, Director, The Skills Network.

SELBY
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Investing in Selby district – Cromwell Polythene’s story

Work’s just begun on brand new premises for Cromwell Polythene at the new Sherburn2 development – a premier Selby district business park. Cromwell, one of the UK’s leading suppliers of speciality products for the storage and collection of waste and recyclables, is expanding to the new site, as business is booming.

Cromwell’s new bespoke facility was purchased from property development company, Glentool Estates Group, at its pioneering Sherburn2 75-acre business park at Sherburn-in-Elmet, near Selby. A 50,000 sq ft distribution warehouse, featuring smart wrap-around offices, will cater for the firm’s predicted growth, whilst creating a contemporary and welcoming business hub for Cromwell’s customers, suppliers and staff.

Managing Director, James Lee, said: “Our business is thriving, thanks to our commitment to reliably and consistently supplying high-quality products with the lowest environmental impact. The Sherburn2 development is perfect for us, allowing us to remain in a superb business and logistics location while creating new premises to suit our needs.

“Apart from the loyalty of our staff, there are other reasons why the Selby area is an excellent place to do business. Sherburn2 is just minutes away from Yorkshire’s superb motorway network, which suites our distribution network perfectly. The quality of life is great too, with competitively-priced housing, excellent schools and colleges and beautiful countryside,” said James.

Cromwell Polythene is expanding onto the new Sherburn2 site. Situated to the east of Leeds, with easy access to the A1, this site offers fantastic opportunities for investment.

He also praised Selby District Council’s Planning and Economic Development teams for supporting Cromwell through the planning process and for exploring funding options for capital expenditure on new equipment and factory layout and design.

Find out more online: selby.gov.uk or search ‘Selby means business’.





Boating on the river Cam, Cambridge

Whether it's the academic & innovation powerhouse of Cambridge or the coast's energy hub, the East of England strives for excellence

With a national park, 75 miles of heritage coastline, historic cathedral cities and a world famous university, it's no wonder the East of England is one of the UK's fastest growing areas.

Sharing its borders with the South East and East Midlands, it is the second largest English region at 19,200 km² and its population is expected to grow by more than 7% over the next few years, exceeding 6.5 million by 2026.

That growth is mirrored in the local economy. It saw the third fastest growth in the UK between 2010-16 and now represents 8.7% of the economy

with a value of around £150bn a year.

The north of the region is largely rural. The Norfolk Broads National Park, the Brecks, resorts like Great Yarmouth and Cromer, Norwich – England's first UNESCO City of Literature – and the beautiful and varied Norfolk-Suffolk coastline help to draw 73 million visitors annually into those two counties alone.

The East of England Energy Zone is unrivalled in the UK for its mix of wind power, gas and nuclear energy production and its Enterprise Zone status reflects the decades of experience and expertise found in the supply chain.

The coast around Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft is at the centre of the largest market for offshore wind and capital investment in energy worth £50bn is planned for the region by 2020, including the development of the world's largest wind farm.

This concentration of activity puts the East of England at the cutting edge of innovation around sustainable and low carbon energy solutions and the sector employs around 8,500 people in more than 830 companies. There are close to 1,000 offshore wind turbines off the region's coast and the number is set to double over the next decade. ●

Combined Authority

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough



Old Divinity School in St Johns street, central Cambridge city centre

The Eastern Region includes the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

Mayor James Palmer will give the Combined Authority a focal point and will be the contact for Central Government. By having a Combined Authority and a Mayor in place, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will receive:

- £170 million to deliver new homes over a five-year period in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough which includes affordable, rented and shared ownership housing
- £20 million a year funding over 30 years to boost growth in the region
- responsibility for chairing a review of 16+ skills provision in the area

The new Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mayor

could also exercise powers and functions devolved from Central Government including:

- responsibility for a multi-year devolved transport budget
- responsibility for an identified key route network of local authority roads
- powers over strategic planning, the responsibility to create a non-statutory spatial framework for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and to develop with Government a Land Commission

The Combined Authority's mission statement is as follows:

'We will be a lean and effective authority. Where possible, we will look to use existing resources while ensuring there is a relatively small investment available. This will allow us to create an effective team that will be essential in delivering our vision for



River Nene from town bridge, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, England, UK



Peterborough Cathedral

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Our key ambitions for the Combined Authority include:

- doubling the size of the local economy
- accelerating house building rates to meet local and UK need
- delivering outstanding and much needed connectivity in terms of transport and digital links
- providing the UK's most technically skilled workforce
- transforming public service delivery to be much more seamless and responsive to local need
- growing international recognition for our knowledge based economy
- improving the quality of life by tackling areas suffering from deprivation. ●

North West Region



Salford area of Manchester with residential buildings surrounding a basin on river inwell



Albert Dock, a renovated Victorian dockland area

Powering ahead

From Manchester and Liverpool's urban renaissance to unprecedented levels of regeneration, it's not difficult to understand why the North West is a draw for investors

With more than seven million people calling it home, the North West is England's third most populous region. Covering some 14,165km², it's the country in a microcosm: vast rural areas, a national park — England's only mountain range, the Lake District — industrial communities, chocolate box market towns and villages, ports, seaside resorts and international cities.

The region takes in Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire and, of course, the world famous cities of Liverpool and Manchester. It's the beating heart of the Government's Northern Powerhouse strategy to boost economic performance in the north of England.

Lord Jim O'Neill, vice chair of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership, recently summed up the North's key strength — attributes that apply to the North West in particular: 'The unique aspect of the Northern Powerhouse, and why it is so crucial in rebalancing the economy, is that its towns and cities are close enough to create a true single market which can have a significant national impact.'

Although the region stretches from the border with Scotland to the north all the way down to its boundaries with the West Midlands, the majority of its population and economic activity are concentrated within a relatively small area across Greater Manchester, Cheshire, parts of Lancashire and Merseyside.

Once the centre of the world's textiles industry, the North West is now a highly diversified economy worth £167bn in 2016 — almost 10% of England's total — with a globally-competitive manufacturing sector specialising in areas such as advanced materials, textiles, chemicals and food and drink.

Assets such as MediaCityUK in Salford — where the BBC and ITV are based — Manchester's smart city testbed CityVerve and the world famous observatory Jodrell Bank, have made the North West the UK's second digital hub after London.

The region's dozen universities are a major science, research and innovation asset, for example creating the largest concentration of excellence in health research

nationally outside the South East. The University of Manchester's revolutionary work around the 2D material graphene is creating a knowledge-based economy focused on realising its huge potential by bringing together scientists, manufacturers, engineers, innovators and industrialists.

More than 100,000 students attend Greater Manchester's four universities alone and the city region's strengths in areas such as professional services, advanced manufacturing and creative and digital have led to projections for its growth to outpace cities including Berlin, Tokyo and Paris.

Like Manchester, the city of Liverpool has undergone something of a renaissance in recent years and is once again playing a full role as a major international port and visitor destination.

Liverpool's burgeoning 'superport' connects the city's historic port to the rest of the UK via water, road, rail and two international airports and it is undergoing £1bn of infrastructure investment. The new deep-water Liverpool2 container terminal can service 95% of the world's largest container ships and the city region is the base for world-leading logistics, energy, retail and manufacturing operations including — Cammell Laird, General Motors and Maersk.

To the south of the region, Cheshire has one of the most successful and productive economies and highly skilled workforces in the country with particular strengths in science and digital technology.

It has been described as the glue that binds the Government's Northern Powerhouse and Midlands Engine strategies together and the arrival of high-speed rail links via HS2 by 2026 will enhance already strong connectivity and build on its competitive advantages.

The North West is a major cultural and sporting destination thanks to a world-renowned music scene, award-winning theatres, galleries and museums and iconic football clubs in the shape of Manchester United, Liverpool and Manchester City. The Victorian resort of Blackpool, with its huge range of attractions, make it one of Europe's most popular resorts and it attracts

18 million visitors a year. The region's natural assets are also a major draw with the Lake District alone accounting for more than 19 million visitors a year worth £1.4bn to the economy. ●

INFORMATION

LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE NORTH WEST

Lancashire Enterprise Partnership:
 ● www.lancashirelep.co.uk

Greater Manchester LEP: ● www.gmlep.com

Liverpool City Region LEP:
 ● www.liverpoollep.org

Cheshire and Warrington LEP:
 ● www.871candwep.co.uk

Cumbria LEP: ● www.thecumbrialep.co.uk



The Gateshead Millennium Bridge

Making the most of your assets

The North East is well known for the warmth of its people and its affordable, business-friendly attitude is also creating a welcoming environment

INFORMATION



LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIPS IN THE NORTH EAST

North East LEP:

County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland

www.nelep.co.uk

Tees Valley LEP:

Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, Stockton and Darlington

www.teesvalley-ca.gov.uk/lep

Covering an area of 8,592 km², the North East borders Scotland to the north, Yorkshire and Humber to the south and west, and with a population of around 2.6 million it's the UK's most sparsely region.

It is a place of contrasts, from the rural expanse of Northumberland with its national park and stunning coastline to the metropolitan areas of Tyne and Wear – home to the cities of Newcastle and Sunderland.

It also includes the university city of Durham and former mining communities of County Durham, and further south, the heavy concentration of industry within Teesside.

Industrial areas like this were the norm across the North East where mining, shipbuilding and other manufacturing were once its lifeblood but the region's economy is now far more diverse. Last year it exported some £12.7bn of goods with machinery and transport accounting for more than half of the total.

While manufacturing is still an important part of the economy, making up 11% of jobs, the region has a growing number of clusters in areas such as automotive and medicines. More than half of businesses in the North East are actively involved in innovation and the proportion employed in science, research, engineering and technology professions is growing.

The region has 21 enterprise zones in the North East LEP area alone that are designed to support economic growth by helping businesses to start up and expand via financial incentives.

They include the A19 Corridor in Sunderland, the UK's first designated area for ultra low carbon vehicles. It's close to the UK home of Nissan and expert support from the University of Sunderland's Institute for Automotive and Manufacturing Advanced Practice (AMAP).

A number of sites at the north bank of the River Tyne form one of the Government's Centres for Offshore Wind and Renewable Engineering and encourage investment in the sector while supporting a growing supply chain.

The region has no fewer than five ports, which handle more than 5.3 million tonnes of freight every year, and Newcastle International Airport – used by almost five million passengers for 95 different destinations. The North East also enjoys widespread superfast broadband connectivity with all local authority areas except Northumberland having at or above the national average.

Teesside's economy to the south of the region, once a hub of steel making and shipbuilding, is now famous for its chemical industries. The Tees Valley area, covering Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton, contributes £10bn to the UK economy every year and while large multinational companies provide the lion's share of employment, there are more than 13,500 SMEs in the sub region.

Tees Valley Combined Authority, launched in 2016, is now driving economic growth and job creation by promoting the area's investment potential. For example, the South Tees Development Corporation – described as 'the single biggest development opportunity in the UK' – aims to create 20,000 jobs over the next 25 years by transforming a 4,500 acre site into a world-class industrial park focused on manufacturing innovation and advanced technologies within a high value, low carbon, diverse and circular economy.

Durham University is ranked among the top 100 institutions in the world and together with the University of Newcastle, Northumbria University, University of Sunderland and Teesside University creates a student population numbering more than 100,000. More than 17,000 are from overseas and those international links have been cemented further through Newcastle's campuses in Malaysia and Singapore and Sunderland's campus in Hong Kong.

The North East's international outlook is also reflected in its economy. Some 3,680 businesses are foreign-owned, equivalent to 5.1% – higher than any other region. ●



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Follow the money

Scotland's commitment high growth, high skill sectors is paying dividends with more and more investors attracted to the potential it presents

Scotland remains the UK's most attractive location for foreign direct investment (FDI) outside of London, according to EY's Attractiveness Survey, Scotland, 2018. FDI growth rate in Scotland is higher than across the UK as a whole, while the number of FDI projects have increased.

Scotland has firmly established itself as a key location for foreign investment, highlighting:

- Scotland's increasing share of UK FDI
- The highest number of HQs in Scotland for a decade
- A 70% rise in R&D projects, proving Scotland has a leading edge in science and technology
- FDI job creation up by a massive 104% – reflecting a shift towards larger scale projects
- Growth of the business services sector, while the UK's has shrunk

- A 56% increase in digital FDI projects, the second largest sector for Scotland
 - Manufacturing FDI projects increased by 25%
- The survey is designed to examine the evolving performance and perceptions of Scotland as a destination for foreign investment.

Highlighting a continuing trend, the survey shows that Scotland remains a prime location for international companies considering foreign expansion.

The results also illustrate that Scotland continues to attract record numbers of inward investment projects.

Companies from across the world view Scotland as a great location to invest, according to the survey. FDI projects rose by 7%, with international investors attributing a number of strengths that give Scotland

the edge over other UK and foreign investors.

The survey also found that the US, Norway and France lead the way in investment in Scotland.

The survey also revealed that Scotland has also retained its position as the number one place in the UK for R&D projects. Last year, Scotland secured 24% of all R&D projects coming into the UK, a massive 70% year-on-year increase.

Paul Lewis, managing director of Scottish Development International said:

'This survey illustrates that Scotland is now firmly established as a location of choice for global investors.'

To be the number one UK location for R&D investment and the number one UK FDI location behind London generally is a tremendous achievement.' ●



Modern office buildings on Atlantic Quay in Glasgow, Scotland



The Armadillo concert hall on the bank of the River Clyde in Glasgow, Scotland

NOW IS THE TIME TO INVEST IN SCOTLAND.



The Kelpies at The Helix

MIPIM 2019. 12 – 15 March. C16.C, Palais des Festivals, Cannes.

Scotland is heading to the world's biggest property event in France this year.

A joint initiative of Scotland's public and private sectors, the Scotland Pavilion will be located on the exclusive La Croisette, and will provide an unrivalled opportunity for Scotland to demonstrate the strength of its economy and showcase commercial investment propositions of scale to some of the most influential players in the international real estate industry.

Join us on the Pavilion for a 3-day programme of talks, presentations, and networking events that highlight why Scotland is a fantastic place to invest. Topics will include smart cities, city living, lifestyle, waterfronts, healthcare, technology, education, devolution and Scotland's investor friendly environment.

It's all happening in Scotland. Make sure you're part of it.

Visit us at www.scotland.org/MIPIM

#SCOTLANDISNOW



WELCOME TO INVEST **ABERDEEN**

THE ABERDEEN CITY REGION IS
ONE OF OPPORTUNITY; AMBITIOUS,
INNOVATIVE, DYNAMIC AND TALENT RICH.
A REGION PROUD OF ITS HERITAGE AND
INVESTED IN ITS FUTURE.

Aberdeen is a global brand. From our position high on the east coast of Scotland, Aberdeen has exerted its influence right around the planet. Our long and proud tradition of invention and discovery – from subsea technology to the discovery of insulin and treatments for Cystic Fibrosis or even the first MRI scanner – demonstrates a fundamental element of our region's DNA, to blaze new trails and shape the future for all.

Commonly known for our oil and gas industry, the region's strengths don't stop there. We are at the forefront of the global energy transition to a lower carbon world. We are an important centre for life sciences with world-leading health research. We are also home to food and drink brands that are enjoyed around the world.

Our international links work both ways and our tradition of global trade has led to an incredibly diverse population. Aberdeen has always been enterprising. Aberdeen has always reached out beyond our shores; our ongoing multimillion pound investments in harbour infrastructure (£350million at Aberdeen harbour and £50million at Peterhead Port) ensures our maritime heritage remains at the very heart of our city region.

Aberdeen has moved seamlessly into scientific, engineering, digital and low carbon specialisms. The city has one of the largest concentrations of life scientists in Europe and the largest biologics cluster in the UK after Cambridge.

Productivity in the North East of Scotland has consistently been above the UK average and among the highest of all Scottish regions. Exports total £7billion annually. GVA per head is the highest in Scotland at approx. £40,000. And there is an £8billion pipeline of infrastructure investments due to be delivered by 2030.

Aberdeen is primed for business, and the INVEST **ABERDEEN** team are on hand to welcome you here. Find us on the Scotland pavilion at MIPIM 2019 or visit www.investaberdeen.co.uk to find out more.

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Web: investaberdeen.co.uk



INVEST ABERDEEN

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COUNCIL





Youth on its side

Carrick-a-Rede, Causeway Coast Route on a beautiful summer day

Trinity College University of Dublin

With one of the youngest populations in Europe, a highly skilled workforce and world-leading universities, Northern Ireland has a number of competitive advantages

Sharing a border with the Republic of Ireland to the south and west and bounded to the north by the Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean, Northern Ireland is home to around 1.8 million people.

Its population is among the youngest in Europe – 53% of people under the age of 40 – and it's also one of the best educated. Northern Ireland is Europe's top performer for primary maths and the sixth best in the world and some 77% of school leavers go onto further and higher education.

Its skilled workforce, competitive operating costs and great infrastructure, which includes the highest availability of superfast broadband in the UK, are making it an increasingly popular location among businesses. For example the capital city Belfast, whose metropolitan area accounts for around a third of the

population, is regarded as the world's top destination city for fintech development inward investment projects. Almost 900 international companies employing around 100,000 people have set up in the region.

Technology, along with the financial and professional services sectors, are the fastest growing areas of Northern Ireland's £37bn economy. It's also home to world-class companies within the aerospace, advanced engineering and manufacturing as well as life and health sciences sectors.

Northern Ireland has also become increasingly successful in attracting foreign direct investment from multinational companies including Microsoft, Seagate Technology, Fujitsu, Bombardier Aerospace and Citi. Almost 80% of new investors have already reinvested.

At the heart of the development of its technology and knowledge-based industries are Northern Ireland's two internationally renowned universities.

Both Queen's University, Belfast and Ulster University have globally-recognised research centres across a range of disciplines and a reputation for linking this with industry. It's underlined by the fact that Queen's University is the UK's number one for intellectual property commercialisation.

Northern Ireland can also offer a high standard of living thanks to lower than average housing costs, an uncongested environment that includes stunning coastlines, mountains and lakes and booming cultural scene in Belfast.

This year Lonely Planet named Belfast and the Causeway Coast in the world's top region to visit. ●

Supercharging the economy

Wales offers a high quality of life and a personal touch for those interested in investing in its success story

The Welsh Government published an economic action plan earlier last year designed to 'supercharge industries of the future and empower all regions to become more productive'.

Having a devolved administration that's more accessible is one of Wales' USPs and it's also a good reason to believe these are more than just words.

Ministers believe the scale the Government operates at bring the public sector, private sector and universities closer together and allow for more tailored and responsive business support.

Wales covers 8.4% of the UK's landmass but just 4.8% of the population with just over three million people. It contains a numerous of mountainous areas and the majority of towns and cities are concentrated in the south – including the main cities of Cardiff, Newport and Swansea.

The decline of heavy industry in Wales from the 1970s onwards left a legacy that's been hard to shake off but the country's economy – worth £60bn a year – is on the up and the focus is very much on its areas of strength. For example, it has eight



Trago Mills in Merthyr Tydfil

enterprise zones offering incentives to businesses in sectors including financial and professional services in Cardiff, advanced manufacturing at Deeside, Ebbw Vale and Port Talbot and aerospace at St Athan and Cardiff Airport.

The Welsh Government provides non-repayable

financing covering up to 45% of capital expenditure costs on inward investment projects and SMEs can also access support through the Development Bank of Wales, one of the UK's largest regional investment companies.

Wales is at the forefront of precision engineering and cutting edge technology with everything from Toyota Auris hybrid engines and Airbus A380 wings to the Raspberry Pi produced there.

More than 30% of the Welsh population aged 21 to 64 are college graduates with a high proportion attending one of Wales' eight universities.

Many graduates from across the UK relocate to Wales thanks to the quality of life and low cost of living it can provide and a quarter of the population is from outside the country.

Described by the Rough Guide as 'the most beguiling part of the British Isles', Wales has three national parks and five Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty while the capital Cardiff is frequently ranked among the best cities in Europe to live thanks to its culture, nightlife, infrastructure and shopping. ●



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