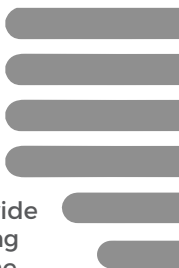


INNOVATION COUNCIL MEETING • 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

- Lyndsey Kemsley Business Development Office for IP gave an update on the Innovation Programme. 172 SME's are on the programme. There are 10 live Proof of Concept projects and 4 in the pipeline. There are 13 active internships and 19 in the pipeline. 21 Vouchers are live and 2 more going to panel in October.
- 30 % of applicants do not convert onto/are not eligible for the programme but they are signposted elsewhere.
- Oluseyi Moses Ajayi, Senior Lecturer, College of Science NCFM, presented a case study on Muretex, who are innovating wearable devices to use in food technology applications.
- Road trip update. Following a pre-group meeting Alex presented an update, suggesting a potential move away from just road trips to an action learning group. Key focus on 6 % growth businesses and generating wealth. Unique selling points for the programme to be devised. To have a cross sector cohort that responds to challenge based issues. Recruitment to begin in January for an initial event in March and to be a 12 month rolling programme. Business hosts within and outside the county to be identified. Use champions including MP's to promote the group and the work of the Innovation Council. LEP to support the initiative and Mary to enquire if they will provide funding for it.
- Julian Bowrey, Regional Manager E & SE Midlands Innovate UK gave an overview on Innovate UK's focus. £0.5 billion budget per annum. Supporting the work of Catapults and running the Industrial Challenge programme. Focus on Health, Life science, Emerging and enabling technologies, manufacturing and Agri food. There is a targeted approach and KTP's are now integrated into the process. The aim is to be business focused at ground level. There is a remit for regional management to be aware of spatial policy, spend and to have local flexibility. They will connect with the strategic priorities of the LEP and what business wants. University of Lincoln research priorities link with the strategic SEP of the LEP.
- Andrew enquired about the Place, Space Fund. UKRI can allocate into winning sectors and will respond to nascent clusters in geographical areas. Places to bid into a small fund and carry out feasibility studies and then bid. At the top level £ 5 million will be available.
- Mary advised that the University has deliberately aligned its research focus with LEP priorities. She is very interested in Lincolnshire being used as a living laboratory for a focus on smaller cities and their needs. Using leap frogging in these areas to create wealth. This is a challenge for the IC to feedback to the LEP on these issues.
- Alex commented that the smaller geographical areas within Greater Lincolnshire are not working well together, businesses need to feel part of Lincolnshire as a whole.
- Commercialisation of innovation is critical.
- Make better use of connectivity and commercialisation, using the virtual world because of the geography of Lincoln. This should be a future topic for the IC.
- Important to find our own solutions using understanding and knowledge of the environs.
- Local Industrial Strategy update from Liz Shutt. It is to be a two way conversation, local ambition is paramount. Themes include Inclusive Growth – new ways of measuring growth which is business led and challenging for LEP's to demonstrate. Rebalancing the economy away from South East and Northern Powerhouse. Ministers are open to thinking about rural areas. We need to think about it in our area and provide solutions, including BREXIT challenges and revisions to the SEP. There is a lack of technical skills and a blurring of HE/FE, Lincolnshire drop off after Level 2. What is the role of the University here? Connectivity is a key theme including international. Emerging theme is targeting support to innovative companies. Government white paper is due in November, evidence gathering in December and then a plan will be developed. The March IC meeting will be focused on providing thinking and ideas to take to the LEP.





THE GREATER LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP INNOVATION COUNCIL

- Mapping England Innovation Activity paper was introduced and will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Next Meeting December 14th at the Bomber Command Centre and members are welcome to stay for the Visitor Economy event following the meeting.

