# Glasgow lands £20m innovation boost to fuel tech and science growth



Glasgow City Region will receive £20 million from the UK government to accelerate innovation across science and technology, as part of the new £500 million Local Innovation Partnerships Fund. Alongside Greater Manchester and the West Midlands, Glasgow is one of three key regions awarded initial funding to foster high-impact sectors including robotics, drug discovery, clean fuels, advanced manufacturing and digital technologies.

Each region will benefit from at least £50 million in total funding, enabling local leaders to invest in projects aligned with regional strengths. In Glasgow, the funding is expected to build on the success of ventures such as Chemify, a digital chemistry firm that highlights the city’s growing tech ecosystem.

The initiative forms part of a broader strategy to harness local expertise through partnerships between businesses, universities and civic institutions. This collaborative model underpins the Innovation Accelerator programme, which has already deployed £100 million across the three regions. A further £30 million has recently been added to support areas including digital chemistry, extended reality, critical technologies and financial regulation.

Glasgow’s strategy places particular emphasis on aerospace innovation and advanced manufacturing, supported through the city’s Investment Zone—funded with £160 million from the UK and Scottish Governments. This zone is projected to attract around £300 million in private investment and create up to 10,000 jobs, leveraging existing infrastructure and talent to drive long-term growth.

The government says the aim is to address historical imbalances in regional innovation funding. Chancellor Rachel Reeves said the programme would help build “an economy that works for all” by backing talent and enterprise across every UK region. Her comments come ahead of the Regional Investment Summit, where attention will shift to opportunities outside traditional economic centres.

With more funding rounds planned for emerging tech hubs, the initiative is expected to reinforce the UK’s regional innovation landscape while supporting strategic sectors such as clean energy and life sciences. Glasgow’s £20 million funding package signals a strong endorsement of the region’s innovation potential. Backed by coordinated policy and investment, it marks a significant step in cementing Glasgow’s place as a leading UK tech hub.

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.digit.fyi/glasgow-set-for-20m-tech-boost/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-regions-given-extra-20m-science-and-tech-cash-boost-as-new-investment-kicks-off-landmark-growth-summit> - The UK government has announced an additional £20 million funding for Greater Manchester, West Midlands, and Glasgow City Region to support local innovation in science and technology. This funding is part of the £500 million Local Innovation Partnerships Fund (LIPF) and aims to accelerate advancements in areas such as robotics, drug discovery, and clean fuels. The initiative seeks to foster regional tech hubs and create job opportunities, aligning with the government's Industrial Strategy to boost local economies.
3. <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/browse-our-areas-of-investment-and-support/local-innovation-partnerships-fund/> - The Local Innovation Partnerships Fund (LIPF) is a £500 million UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) programme designed to empower local partnerships between civic institutions, businesses, and universities. The fund aims to unlock regional economic growth by investing in high-potential innovation clusters across the UK, including Greater Manchester, West Midlands, and Glasgow City Region. Each region is earmarked for at least £30 million to invest in local innovation strengths, such as advanced manufacturing, life sciences, digital technologies, and clean energy.
4. <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/browse-our-areas-of-investment-and-support/innovation-accelerator-programme/> - The Innovation Accelerator programme is a £130 million initiative led by Innovate UK on behalf of UK Research and Innovation and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology. It focuses on accelerating the growth of high-potential innovation clusters in Glasgow City Region, Greater Manchester, and West Midlands. The programme supports locally-led innovation to drive economic growth and technological advancement, with partnerships responsible for developing and coordinating strategic plans for each accelerator.
5. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-funds-for-local-leaders-to-unlock-jobs-and-boost-innovation-across-the-country> - The UK government has introduced a new competition allowing local areas to bid for up to £20 million each in funding to grow regional science and technology expertise. This initiative is part of the £500 million Local Innovation Partnerships Fund and aims to support local leaders in investing in innovation strengths, from advanced manufacturing and life sciences to digital technologies and clean energy. The funding seeks to unlock discoveries and create jobs, contributing to the government's Industrial Strategy.
6. <https://www.glasgowriversideinnovationdistrict.com/news-plus/news/103-innovation-accelerator-extension-welcomed> - The University of Glasgow has welcomed the extension of the UK's Innovation Accelerator programme, which has been increased by £30 million for the coming year. The programme, which has already invested £100 million in high-potential innovation clusters across Glasgow City Region, Greater Manchester, and West Midlands, aims to build on regional cluster strengths to drive economic growth and technological advancement. The new investment includes support for innovative projects in areas such as Digital Chemistry, Extended Reality, Critical Technologies, and Financial Regulation.
7. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/local-leaders-in-every-uk-nation-backed-by-30-million-each-to-drive-transformative-innovation-and-grow-the-economy> - Local leaders across the UK are being backed by at least £30 million each to target science and technology funding towards regional strengths, including AI, life sciences, and more. This support is part of the £500 million Local Innovation Partnerships Fund and aims to unlock discoveries that improve lives and create businesses central to growing the economy. The funding builds on previous support for regions such as Greater Manchester, West Midlands, and Glasgow City Region.