


Innovate UK

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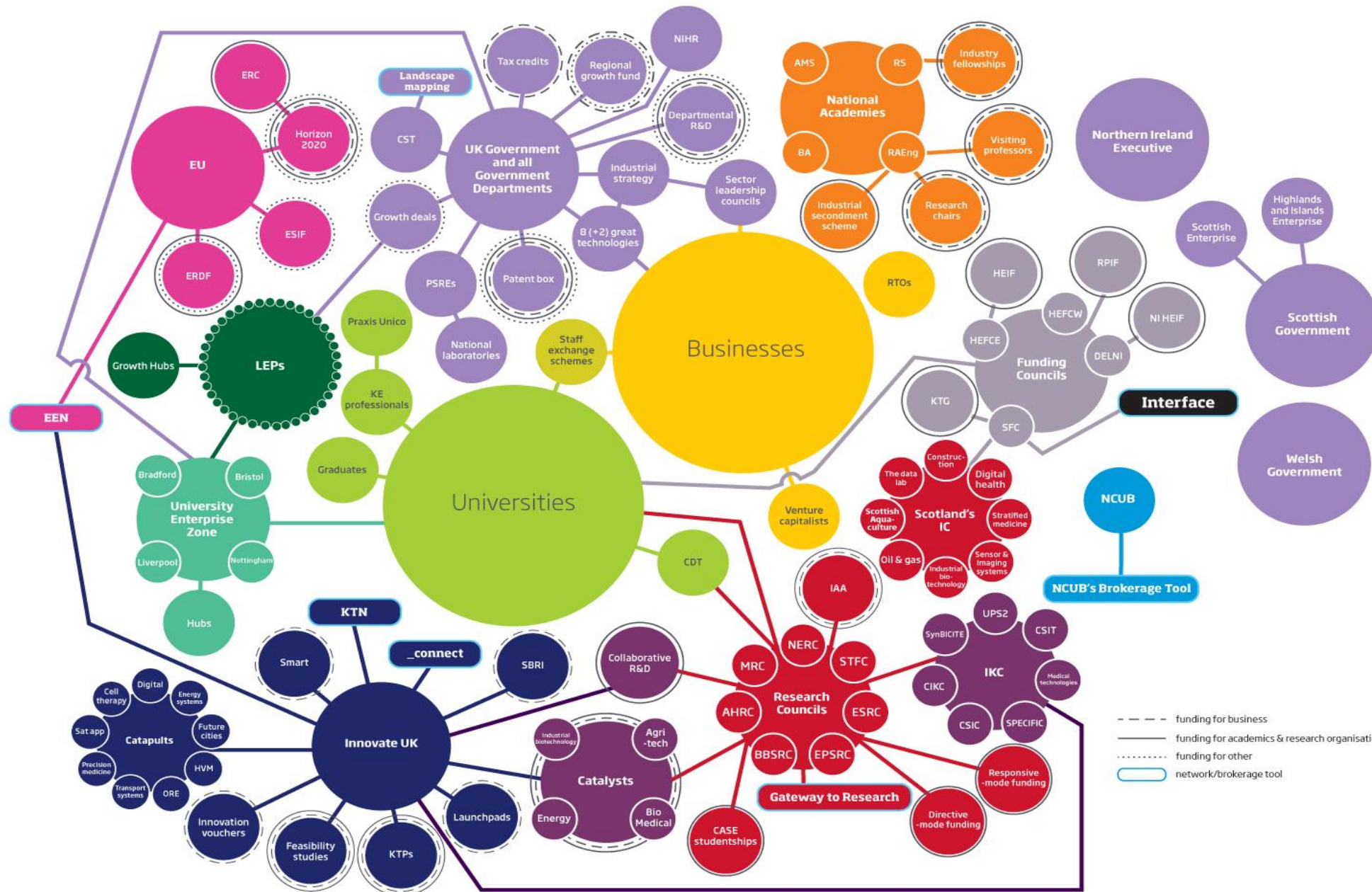
Innovate UK

Innovate UK

- UK's innovation agency - a national public body set up by government to stimulate business innovation
 - Sponsored by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
 - 300 people mostly from business
 - Responsible for investing over £560m per year in innovation
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Key elements of the UK innovation landscape

- World leading universities and research centres
 - Good and supportive innovation system
 - Innovative businesses and long history of innovation
 - Range of public sector support available both nationally and locally - funding, coaching, facilities
 - Networks and Centres
 - Strong private investment community – particularly business angels
 - Incubator and accelerator space and communities of start-ups
 - Increasing focus on helping businesses scale
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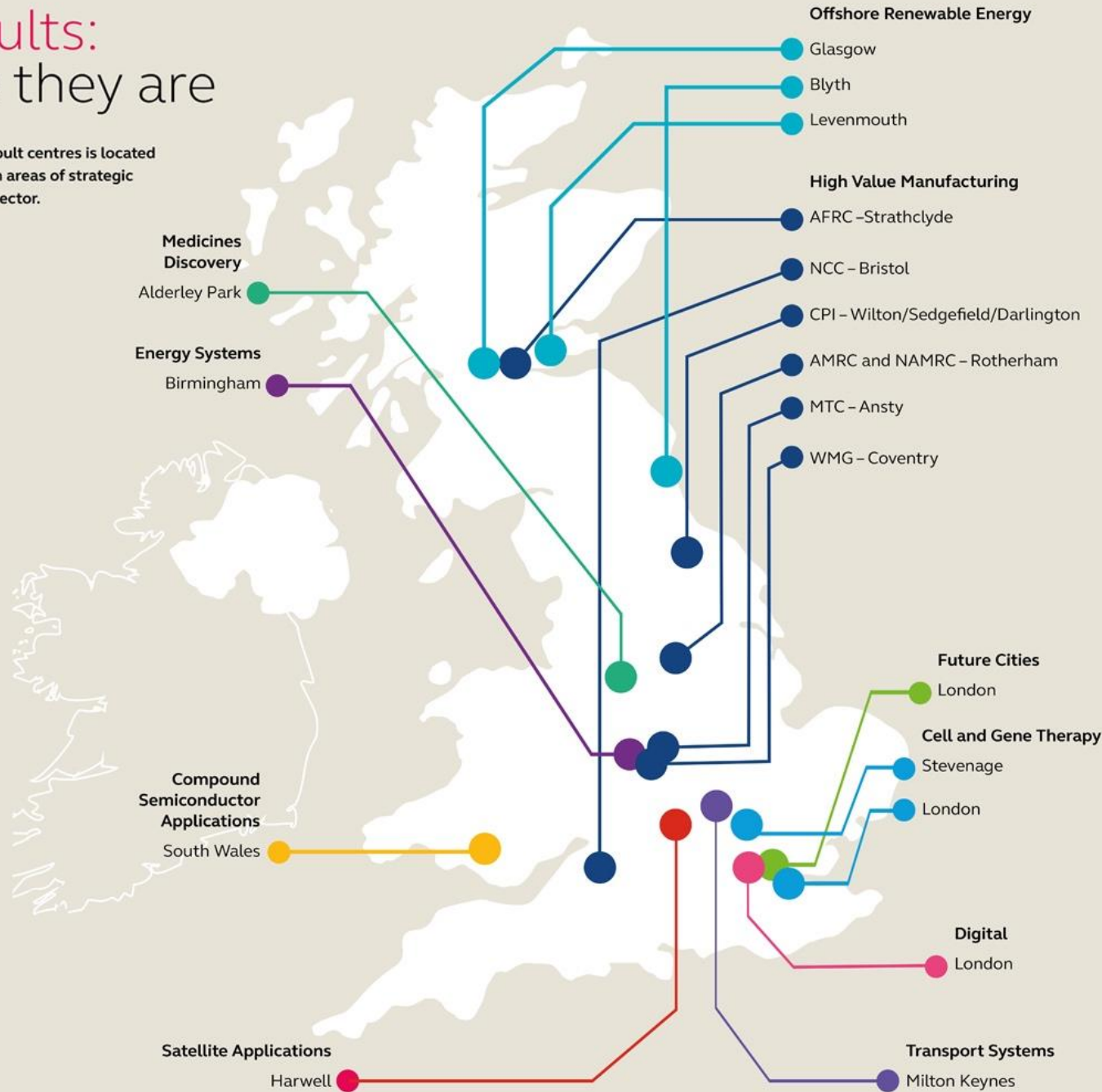
A brief history of Government funded academic-business relations in the UK

- Teaching Company Scheme – helping train graduates in businesses – established 1975
- LINK Collaborative R&D scheme – joint academic and business R&D projects - established 1986
- Focus on University spin-outs mid-to-late 90s
- Teaching Company Scheme becomes Knowledge Transfer Partnerships and focus flips to graduate helping company (whilst still getting business training) - 2003
- Government Technology Programme (collaborative R&D) including first challenge based programmes – established 2003
- Creation of Catapult programme – 2010
- Focus again on University spin-outs and more effective technology transfer - present

CATAPULT[®]

Catapults: where they are

Our network of Catapult centres is located throughout the UK in areas of strategic importance to each sector.



“To innovate, we need open centres where academia and business can get together and drive forward great ideas into manufactured products. And that’s what the Catapults are delivering for us.”

Juergen Maier, Chief Executive,
Siemens UK

Regional Centres

Digital

North East and Tees Valley
Yorkshire
Brighton
Northern Ireland

Satellite Applications

North East East Midlands
Scotland South Coast
South West

Catapult centres

- Over a 20 year period UK Government closed and privatised public sector labs and research centres and many corporates also closed their R&D centres preferring a more “open innovation” approach
- Some not-for-profit and commercial Research & Technology Organisations still existed, but not necessarily providing coverage in all areas
- Gap identified in the UK around 2008/2009 and the need for centres sitting between academia and business to help with commercialisation
- Hauser Review of Technology and Innovation Centres published in 2010 and the Catapult name agreed
- First Catapult centre in High Value Manufacturing established in 2010 (bringing together 7 existing centres)

Catapult centres

- Innovate UK responsible for establishing and funding Catapult centres (with Ministry sign-off)
- Each Catapult focuses on an area of UK strength with global market potential (key criteria)
- Area of UK strength needs to be able to benefit from a Catapult centre – not too far from market or too close to market and not too broad or too narrow
- Each Catapult established as a not-for-profit business – independent from Government
- Catapults provide knowledge and facilities operating ahead of the market and so can open up new opportunities for businesses
- Catapults work closely with academia to draw on their expertise

Catapult centres

- Catapults are a long term investment by the UK Government – 10+ years
- No intention they will ever be self-sustaining
- Three-thirds funding model -

Industry R&D

Access to unique facilities
& expertise
Develop & demonstrate at scale
Reduce risk of implementation
Direct contracts for projects
Easy access for SMEs

Core Projects

Key challenges and barriers
A unique technical capability
Industry & research
advisory groups
Demonstration projects
Disseminate to industry

CR&D

Innovation in collaborations
Bring together customers, SMEs
& blue-chip companies
Technical & management resource
Partners in Projects (IUK & EU)
Expertise at unlocking funding

Catapult centres

- Catapult centres now an important part of innovation system in UK
- Similar model used in other countries – i.e. Fraunhofer Institutes in Germany
- Model can work for other countries but needs to fit within the context of the innovation system
- Getting the right metrics and evaluation is still ‘work in progress’
- Key learning (what didn’t go so well!) would be –
 - Don’t try to establish centres through a competitive process
 - Ensure the business model is right for sector and there is clear business need
 - Stronger central governance

Creation of UK Research and Innovation

- Creation of a new body bringing together Innovate UK and the UK Research Councils
- Innovate UK will be a separate Council within UKRI
- Innovate UK will retain its distinctive focus and funding stream
- Continue to work closely with businesses to ensure UKRI is helping deliver commercial impact and a competitive advantage for the UK economy
- Innovate UK will continue to have its own budget, ensuring continued separation between research and innovation budgets

Innovation knows
no boundaries...

Innovate UK