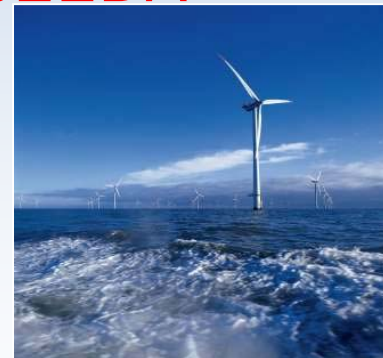


24th April 2008
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 Rural Research and Strategy Partnership
 “Leveraging the SE knowledge
 base for Rural Purposes”
 Ed Metcalfe, SEEDA



RRSP Priorities

The Partnership's research 'remit' will include, but not be limited to all topics considered priorities for the economic, environmental and social sustainability of the region's rural areas. These currently include:

- sustainable land management, including enhanced agricultural and horticultural product manufacture;
- rural infrastructure, including transport, post offices, communication and the sustainable built environment;
- water, waste and energy
- the health, well-being and long term sustainability of rural communities; and
- developing skills, enterprise and entrepreneurship in rural areas.

Knowledge base contribution to Regional Economic Strategy Targets

- 1 Attracting inward investment.
- 2 Collaboration for Innovation.
- 3 Increasing innovative products
- 5 Enterprise skills
- 6 Employability and Skills
- 9 Sustainable built environment
- 11 Climate change and energy;
- 12 Sustainable production and consumption
- 13 Natural resources and the environment
- 14 Sustainable communities

Business support for Innovation

Innovation Collaborations

- Networks – LTN, Knowledge networks, CIP
- Partnerships – flexible KTPs, innovation vouchers
- Collaborative R&D
- Innovation Platforms

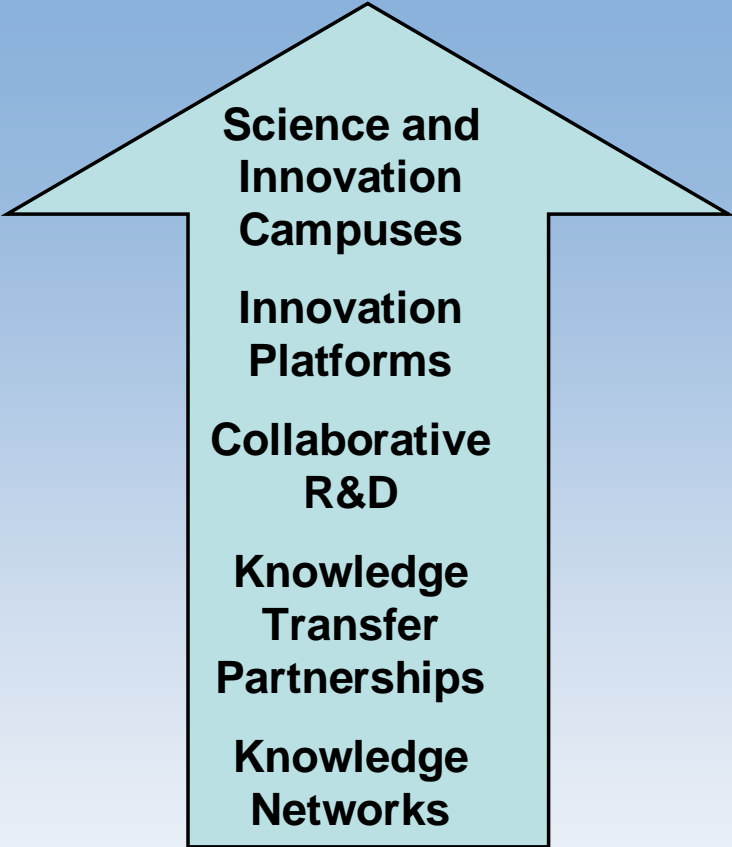
Shared business support environments

- Science and Innovation Campuses

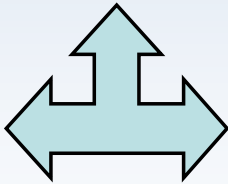
Access to Business Expertise

- Innovation Advisory Service

NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



Businesses



Universities

ENABLING COLLABORATION

Transformational Actions

- **Science and Innovation Campus**
 - **Integrated Resource Management for Low Impact Buildings and Low Impact Communities.**
- **Global Leadership in Environmental Technologies**

The Kent Thameside Institute for Sustainability (KT IfS)

Centre of excellence enabling collaborative working and research to develop, test and demonstrate solutions for

Integrated Management of Resources for Communities and Districts

- Part of an **international network** giving access to world class knowledge in sustainability
- Provide a place where academics and business people can **work together** on both research and demonstration
- **Shorten the lead time** for implementing new technologies in live developments
- Focus on **systems integration and development**, to obtain an order of magnitude enhancement of impact
- **Demonstrator** site will provide a test bed for integrating current best practice technologies into large and complex systems
- Linked to Dagenham Dock IfS and Dongtan IfS

- Opportunities: rural-urban interface; future-proofing; waste; energy; water.

Innovation Platform - Low Impact Housing

- The UK construction industry is around £100bn in size (8% of GDP) and employs 2.1 million people
- UK construction sales are split roughly equally between new build, and repairs, maintenance and improvement
- About a third of all UK construction is directly procured by the public sector
- Global construction activity accounts for 10% of the world economy and 25% of all raw materials
- The CLG Code for Sustainable Homes will require all new housing to use 44% less energy by 2014, and to be 'zero net carbon' by 2017

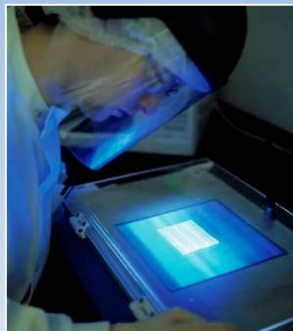
How are Innovation Platforms organised?

- Each Innovation Platform has a Steering Group
 - Representatives from the Government Department that owns the “challenge”
 - A Research Council member who represents all the Research Councils
 - A Regional Development Agency member who represents all the Regional Development Agencies and Devolved Administrations
 - A lead Knowledge Transfer Network representative who represents all KTNs
 - A cross section of businesses, with senior representation
 - The Innovation Platform staff

Future Innovation Platforms

Possible areas include:

- Sustainable Agri-Food Supply Chain
 - DEFRA
- Potable Water
 - DEFRA, EA, OfWat, UKWIR
- Waste Management
 - DEFRA, BERR



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