

Regional Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) Hubs

The University is increasingly asked to work with businesses and other stakeholders to address challenges which increase the level of R&D in business; provide support for innovation; and, help commercialise new products and services. Research, Development and Innovation (RD&I) Hubs are a concept developed by the IIB regional team to help academics start a targeted conversation with businesses and stakeholders in the region around key technological, societal or economic challenges and to identify how these can be addressed through collaboration which brings to bear the knowledge and expertise of the University.

Regional RD&I Hubs are centred on the idea of collaboration delivering the best, fastest outcomes for future development. Having been tried at a regional level they are now being developed to engage with businesses more widely.



Top tips

1. Find out about industry needs and challenges and understand through practical examples how the RD&I hubs work to establish conversations around collaborations with targeted businesses
2. Gain access to high growth SMEs through existing RD&I hubs in marine technology, agritech, data and environmental technology sectors
3. Work with IIB to introduce new RD&I hubs to engage with businesses relevant to other themes or sectors that reflect your knowledge and expertise
4. Identify and shape solutions to key business challenges, particularly where your expertise and the University's facilities can have a positive impact
5. Engage in follow-up discussions /actions alongside IIB business engagement teams which propose and develop collaborative solutions to business challenges

Innovation, Impact and Business support

We can help you by:

1. Providing the people and resources required to help initiate discussions between businesses and academics around key themes and sectors
2. Providing a process to help take academic ideas and expertise into the business environment
3. Setting up RD&I hub events and activities and identifying facilitators to manage initial activities.

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