

Appendix 2 – Greater Lincolnshire LIPF Programme

1. Greater Lincolnshire Programme Details

- 1.1. In the original proposal submitted in February, the Lincolnshire Engine for Dual-use Growth & Excellence (EDGE) programme proposed the development of a new emerging innovation cluster centred on the growth potential for dual-use technologies developed in the cross-over space between agri-tech and defence and security.
- 1.2. Both these sectors already have mature, national-scale clusters focused particularly around the A15 corridor between RAF Waddington and the former RAF Scampton. This zone incorporates the existing assets of the Lincoln Institute for Agri-food Technology (LIAT), DecisionWorks and Centre for Defence & Security AI, and the Lincoln Science & Innovation Park.
- 1.3. The programme aims to:
 - 1.3.1. Increase the number of firms operating in the dual-use ecosystem;
 - 1.3.2. Deliver spin-outs and high-growth scale-ups through a structured commercialisation pipeline;
 - 1.3.3. Scale the level of innovation activity and private investment across the ecosystem;
 - 1.3.4. Establish the UK's primary real-world testbeds for human-machine decision-making and autonomous systems.
- 1.4. EDGE will focus on development of a shared set of enabling technologies:
 - 1.4.1. Multi-platform sensing, data integration and real-time analytics
 - 1.4.2. AI and machine learning for high-speed decision support
 - 1.4.3. Cyber security, digital twins and secure data environments
 - 1.4.4. Autonomous systems and advanced robotics
- 1.5. The portfolio will be developed and managed by the GLCCA Innovation Panel, a triple helix group convened to support delivery of the Greater Lincolnshire

Innovation Strategy and provide oversight of the LIPF portfolio. This group sat for the first time in May 2026.

- 1.6. Active engagement across the two existing clusters is now underway to formally identify, prioritise, and develop the projects within the pipeline.

2. Strategic priorities

- 2.1. The 10-year vision for this programme is to establish Lincolnshire EDGE as the UK's leading dual-use technology zone, internationally recognised for development, testing and commercialisation of deployable dual-use technologies.
- 2.2. This aligns with strategic priority number 4 within the [Greater Lincolnshire Plan](#) – to “increase levels of investment and innovation for businesses of all sizes and sectors”. EDGE also aligns with the University of Lincoln’s Research Strategy which highlights ag-tech and defence & security as key areas of focus and ambition.
- 2.3. Project selection, prioritisation, and development is being guided by the existing innovation evidence base and [Innovation Strategy](#) adopted by the GLCCA in autumn 2025. This highlighted key strategic “innovation accelerators”, as well as structural barriers to innovation which the programme is designed to address.
- 2.4. As well having oversight of the LIPF pipeline, the GLCCA Innovation Panel will work to ensure continued alignment between the programme and these strategic priorities across the wider innovation landscape within Greater Lincolnshire.
- 2.5. Final agreement and full development of the project pipeline will take place during July and August, ahead of the submission deadline on 7th September.