

Map of innovation support for SFC board

- This paper invites RKEC to comment on the development of a high-level map/summary of innovation support in Scotland as part of a core brief for RKEC and SFC's board. The paper also invites RKEC to note the range of innovation mapping work underway at a national level.

Recommendations

- comment on the development of a high-level map/summary of innovation support in Scotland as part of a core brief for RKEC and SFC's board.
- note the range of innovation mapping work underway at a national level and to comment as appropriate.

Financial implications

- There are none.

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Purpose

1. This paper invites RKEC to comment on the development of a high-level map/summary of innovation support in Scotland as part of a core brief for RKEC and SFC's board. The paper also invites RKEC to note the range of innovation mapping work underway at a national level.

Background

2. The SFC board, at its meeting on 22 December 2017, when discussing proposed phase two investments in the Innovation Centre programme, made the following broad and wider recommendation:

“That a national map of innovation be prepared (to include data driven innovation (DDI), the Robotarium etc. as well as the ICs) to allow consideration of innovation needs, gaps and duplication in Scotland.”

3. There is a range of innovation mapping/analysis work underway at the national level which we expect will support the identification of opportunities and gaps for Scotland – this includes:
 - Strategic board: action on prioritising centres of excellence – SE, HIE and SFC¹;
 - Scottish Government sponsored innovation mapping work with NESTA;
 - Can Do Business Innovation Forum: ‘innovation snapshots’;
 - Strategic board: mission groups (summer 2018);
 - UK Industrial Strategy: UK research infrastructure roadmap.
4. SFC is engaged in all of the above and is ensuring colleges and universities are in scope. Further information on the above will be provided as oral updates at the August and future meetings.
5. The executive aims to produce a high-level map or summary for SFC's board, and RKEC, to aid its understanding and decision making on innovation support in Scotland. This will need to be sufficiently high-level so that it can be maintained and kept up to date with minimal administrative burden. We would update the map with any relevant outcomes arising from the work described in paragraph 3 above.

Map

6. A draft map/summary of innovation support in Scotland focussed on SFC

¹ As discussed by RKEC in March 2018 - RKEC18/08.

investments is attached. It is intended to show the projects and infrastructure funded by SFC at a national level and the alignment with other key parts of the Scottish and UK innovation ecosystem specifically, city deals and UK Industrial Strategy.

7. RKEC is invited to comment on the draft map/summary and assist with its development – focussing particularly on its intended purpose as part of a core brief for both RKEC and SFC’s board.
8. It is intended that the map will be presented to SFC’s board at its meeting in September 2018.

Risk assessment

9. There is no risk associated with this paper.

Equality and diversity assessment

10. An equality and diversity assessment is not required.

Financial implications

11. None.

Recommendations

12. RKEC Council is invited to:
 - comment on the development of a high-level map/summary of innovation support in Scotland as part of a core brief for RKEC and SFC’s board.
 - note the range of innovation mapping work underway at a national level and to comment as appropriate.

Publication

13. This paper but not its annex will be published on the SFC website.

Further information

14. Contact: Keith McDonald, tel: 0131 313 6674, email: kmcdonald@sfc.ac.uk.