Place-based innovation in the horticultural and food supply chain

Dr Nicola Harrison, Programme Director
Growing Kent & Medway (GKM) is funded by UKRI’s ‘Strength in Places Fund’. An £18 million investment with matched funding.

**Growing Kent & Medway** is a world-class research, innovation and enterprise cluster supporting growth in:

- technology-driven horticulture;
- fresh produce packaging;
- food and drink processing and supply chains.
Regional Strength - GKM Partners

Collaboration and co-creation between researchers, businesses, investors and local stakeholders is essential.
Business Innovation and Growing Kent & Medway Cluster

- R&D Grant Funding
- Food Accelerator
- Mentoring Programme
- Networking & Events
- Research Infrastructure
- 2030 Workforce of the future
- Inclusive Growth Agenda
Investment in flagship infrastructure

Green Tech Hub for Advanced Horticulture – NIAB at East Malling

- Plant growth rooms, wine innovation centre, research glasshouse & meeting space

NIAB
Investment in flagship infrastructure

Medway Food Innovation Centre

- Food processing, product development & packaging
- University of Greenwich
Investment in flagship infrastructure

Biotechnology Hub for Sustainable Food & Drink

- Fermentation technology, high-value compounds from plant materials, controlling pathogens and improving quality, flavour & aroma
- University of Kent
Investment in flagship infrastructure

Industrial Agri-Engineering Hub – Canterbury Christ Church University

- Agri-engineering, automation, manufacturing, assistive technologies and applied data analysis
Food Accelerator & Mentoring

- For start-ups and all stages of businesses in plant-based food & drink space
- Connect with industry leading experts
- Access to state-of-the-art facilities and technical expertise
- Mentorship
- Helping to raise investment and grant funding
- Guidance on leadership, strategy & market development

GROWING KENT & MEDWAY
Grant funding trailblazers

GKM is making up to **£5 million** available to support research, development and business innovation.

- **Large-scale collaborative R&D grants**
- **Small-scale research and innovation grants**
- **Technology demonstrator fund**
Events & Networking

BUSINESS INNOVATION MASTERCLASSES
How to find funding and maximise your return

GROWING KENT & MIDWAY
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