

The Cambridge x Manchester Partnership presents

The University of Manchester

INNOVATION
FESTIVAL 26

Investor Summit

Thursday 8 October | 13:30-17:00

Citylabs 1.0, Bruntwood SciTech, Manchester

Part of the University of Manchester Innovation Festival



The Cambridge
× Manchester
Partnership



One Debate. **Six Pitches:**

Where should Britain's capital go next?

THE MOTION

Is the UK backing too many startups at the expense of scaling its winners?

Hosted by The Cambridge x Manchester Partnership as part of the University of Manchester Innovation Festival, the curated investor summit brings investors, policymakers and innovation leaders together to examine the future of UK growth capital, innovation and regional collaboration.

The afternoon features a live investor debate chaired by Orla Browne, Dealroom, with Kath Mackay (Innovate UK), Cat Headley (Innovation Factory), Irene Graham (ScaleUp Institute), and David Levine (Manchester Angels), followed by pitches from six high-potential startups and spinouts from across both ecosystems.

WHY THIS ROOM?

→ DISCOVER

Emerging investment opportunities across advanced materials, climate, life sciences, creative, defence and quantum.

→ ENGAGE

With high-quality deal flow from across the Cambridge and Manchester ecosystems.

→ CONNECT

Investors, founders, policymakers and ecosystem leaders in one room.

→ DEBATE

Diverse perspectives on where the UK's growth capital should go next.





Programme

13:30	ARRIVAL AND NETWORKING
13:45	WELCOME  Opening remarks from Faye Holland, Partnership Director <i>The Cambridge x Manchester Partnership</i>
13:55	LIVE DEBATE: STARTUPS OR SCALE-UPS: IS THE UK BACKING THE WRONG BET? Has the focus on early-stage company creation come at the expense of scaling the country's most promising ventures? Two sides, one motion, and a room that votes before and after.  Chaired by Orla Browne Head of Insights <i>Dealroom</i> With:  David Levine Principal <i>Manchester Angels</i>  Cat Headley CEO <i>The University of Manchester Innovation Factory</i>  Irene Graham OBE CEO <i>ScaleUp Institute</i>  Kath Mackay Interim Managing Director <i>Innovate UK</i>

14:55

BREAK

15:15

STARTUP SHOWCASE

Six high-potential startups and spinouts from across the Cambridge and Manchester ecosystems pitch live to the room.



Hosted by **Andy Roberts**
Head of Accelerator Programmes
Unit M

With:



Stephen Hodge
CEO
Cambridge Advanced Materials



Premlal B. Pillai
CEO
Hollowgraf



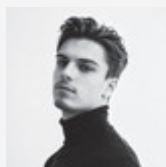
Tim Eyes
Co-founder and Director of Programs
Imperagen



Ben Etches
Founder
Sineco



Laurent Bernard
Production Manager
SmartIR



Leo Feasby
CEO
SpinOR

15:55	CLOSING REMARKS INNOVATION IN GREATER MANCHESTER
	 Faye Holland Partnership Director <i>The Cambridge x Manchester Partnership</i>
16:00	NETWORKING AND DRINKS Continue the conversation with investors, founders, policymakers and leaders from both innovation ecosystems.
17:00	EVENT CLOSES

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Website: www.cambridge-manchester.com

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/cambridge-manchester/

Enquiries: info@cambridge-manchester.com



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