

# Agritech





# Beyond expectation

**Our region is playing a vital role in shaping the way we live our lives.** Our businesses seek and deliver new ways of making and doing things to improve all our futures. But it's our talented workforce, brilliant brains, and world changing innovations that really put us on the map. Creating the perfect conditions for opportunity and business to thrive.



The **buses** and **trains** that keep the world moving



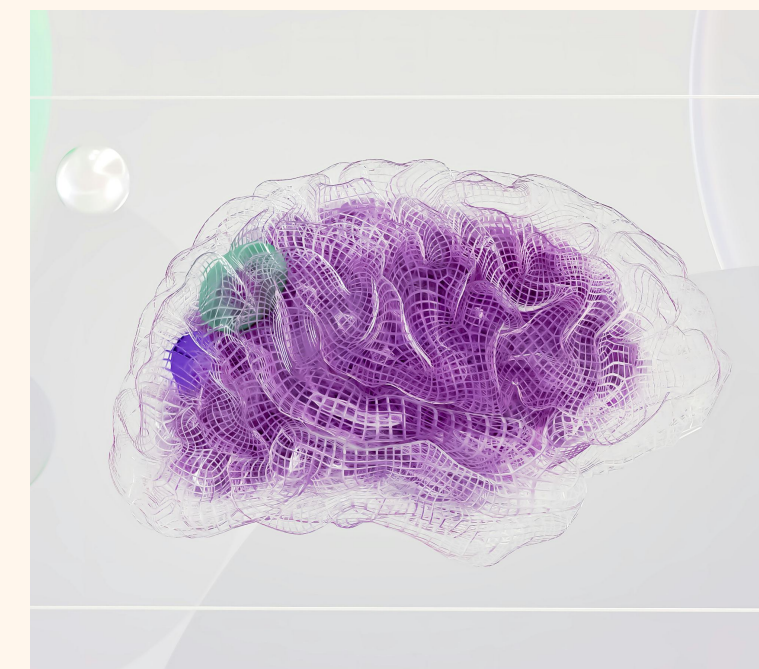
The **food** on your plate



The **special effects** in your favourite TV show



The **technology** in your pocket and your workplace



Your **healthy** future



Even your **tea** break





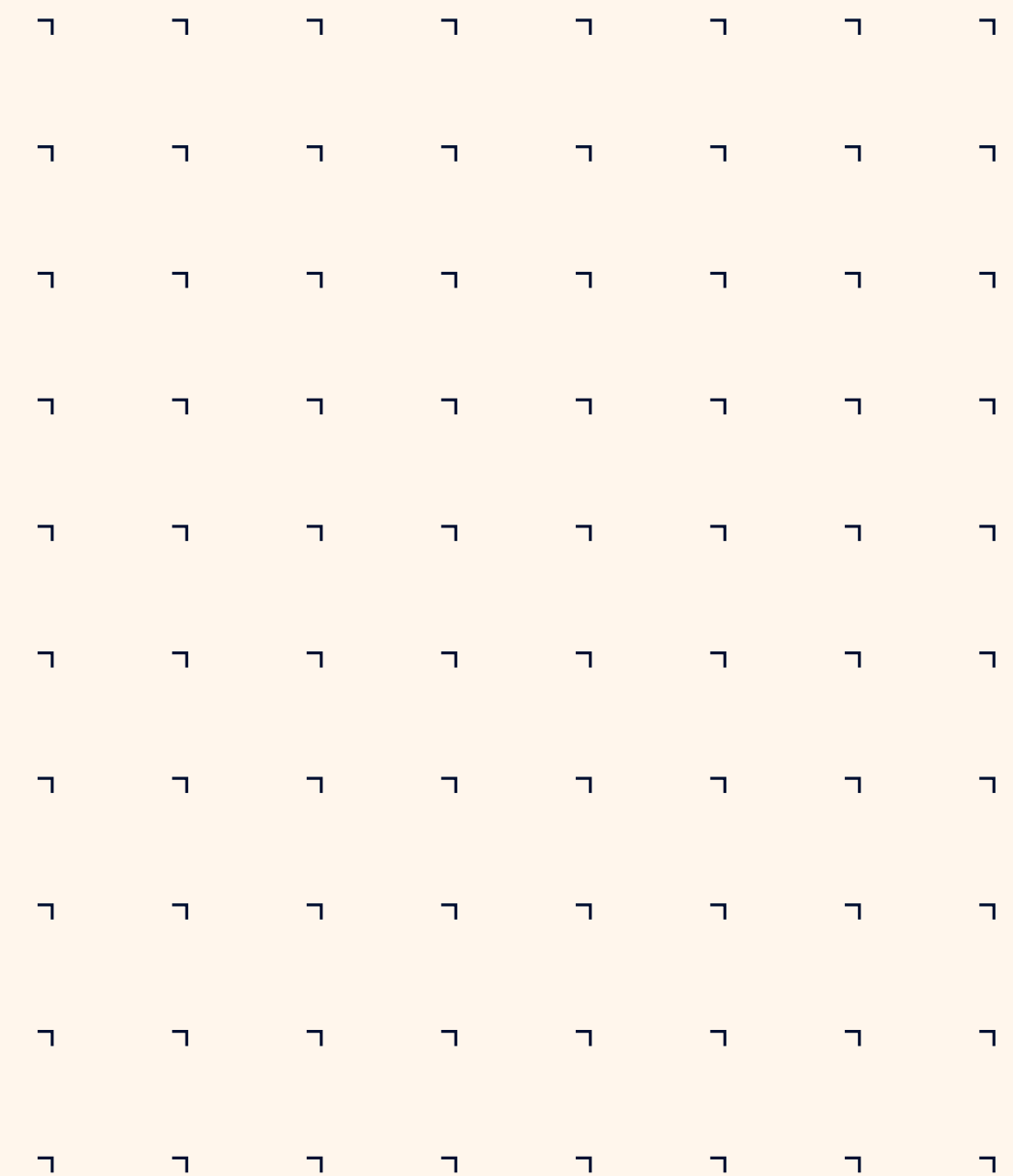
# Why York & North Yorkshire?

Because we're good at what we do, and ambitious about what we want to achieve.

We've been the home of innovations in **rail** and **manufacturing** for decades, while leading the way in sustainable food production through our expertise in **agritech** and **industrial biotechnology**.

And thanks to our region's research institutions, universities and businesses there's a real buzz and a clear vision in our emerging sectors like **creative & digital** and **healthy ageing**.

In fact, we're so confident about what York and North Yorkshire is best at, we've identified these particular sectors as somewhere we see massive potential for investment and growth.

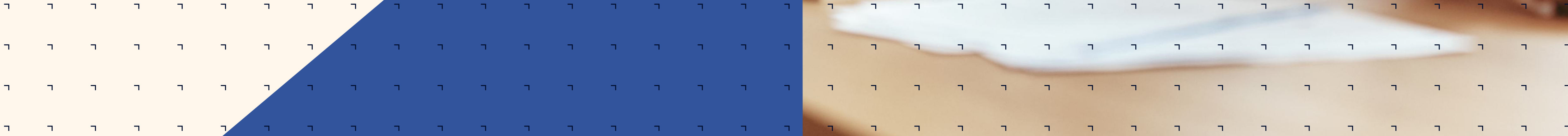




# We have you covered

Invest in York & North Yorkshire is a partnership dedicated to driving investment into our region and enabling growth for us and you. We're achieving this by welcoming UK and international businesses to our region and making the whole process as easy as possible.

Comprising a support team, concierge service and business experts from York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council, our service has you covered right from the start.





# The solution is here already

2nd largest

and THE most productive agrifood, food and drink cluster in the UK.

2 Freeports

in neighbouring Teesside and Hull, making importing and exporting hassle-free.

4 airports

within easy access for freight and passenger travel, including Leeds, Tees Valley, Newcastle and Manchester, and just two hours, by train from Heathrow.

499,800

people of working age, plus thousands more within easy reach in neighbouring Teesside, West Yorkshire and Hull.

4 universities

including the Russell Group University of York - ranked 4th in the UK for excellence in bioscience research.

Innovators

in glasshouse and vertical farm construction, LED lighting and heating systems, crop and plant genetics

A1, M1, M62

keeping you easily connected to the UK's main road network.

£22.1 billion

is the worth of our economy, and is a major economic driver in the north of England.

40,000

registered businesses in the region.

< 2 hours

from York to London and Manchester, thanks to our direct rail links.



# Well-connected to the rest of the UK



- York & North Yorkshire
- Airports
- Motorways
- Freeports
- Rail Links





# Sowing the future for sustainable food production

York & North Yorkshire is shaping the agriculture, horticulture, and aquaculture landscapes of tomorrow.

With an extensive range of research and development assets and capabilities, along with a heritage of farming, fishing and food production, York and North Yorkshire is redefining global agrifood production.







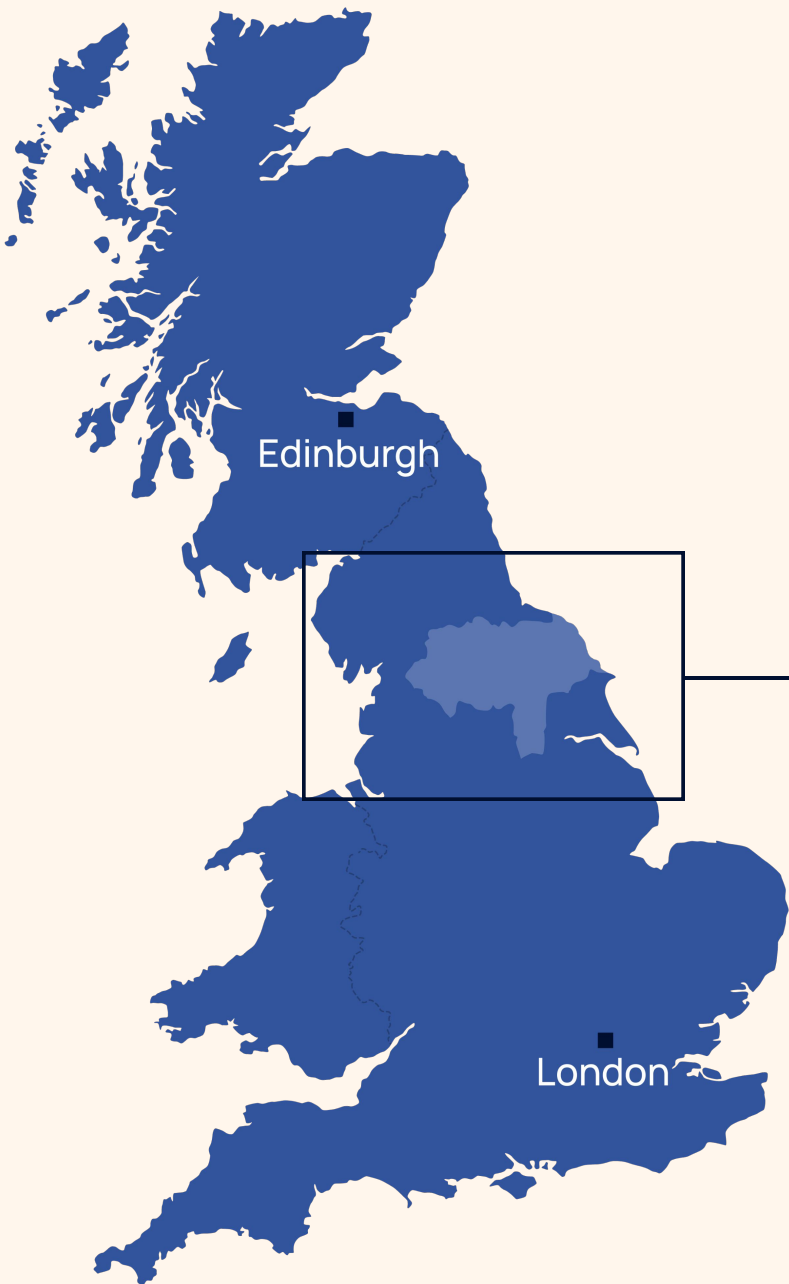
# £6.6bn

**The UK imports 46% of its vegetables and 58% of its fruit creating a £6.6bn opportunity.** 60% of our land is dedicated to agriculture and horticulture. York and North Yorkshire is perfectly positioned to work with your business to solve the challenges of global food supply.

This has encouraged national research institutions to make base here, including **Fera Science Ltd**, the **UK Agritech Centre and DEFRA** (UK Government Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs).



# Regional Assets





# High potential opportunity

For Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA)

Thanks to our expertise, the UK Department for Business and Trade (DBT) has identified us, as **the** region best placed to welcome controlled-environment agriculture and horticulture businesses looking to invest and extend operations within the UK and Europe.

This recognition is due to the region's extensive research and development capabilities, access to over 30 distribution centres servicing the UK retail market, and upstream and downstream supply chain connectivity.







# Training your workforce

Our future workforce is constantly developing thanks to the dedicated agricultural and horticulture colleges of Askham Bryan, Bishop Burton and Craven.



Askham Bryan is the only land-based college in the UK, offering degree-level study, awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society of England (RASE).





# Leading the way in Agritech Hortitech and Aquatech

01



From genetics to improving climate resilience and increasing biodiversity...

02



...to AI and robotics supporting improved land management and plant health.

03



From developing alternative proteins for animal feed...

04



...to pioneering new methods for seaweed farming along our coastline.

05



With a connected ecosystem - home to DEFRA (UK Government for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs), upstream and downstream supply chain assets, and various site options.



# Spotlight on agritech innovators

Here are some of the  
organisations in our region,  
**driving innovation in agritech.**







Fera Science is a major driver of agritech innovation from its extensive R&D facility in the heart of our region, at the York Bio-tech Campus.



Fera is a **national and international centre of excellence** for interdisciplinary investigation and problem solving across plant and bee health, crop protection, sustainable agriculture, food and feed quality and chemical safety in the environment.

Fera creates and delivers integrated, innovative, and expert research services and products for their partners in crop protection, chemical and animal health companies, as well as food producers and growers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers. Fera also supports and works closely with governments, academia, and leading research organisations.



# Spotlight

The UK Agritech Centre offers a complete lifecycle of support, driving agritech innovation and adoption through world-class research facilities, expert knowledge and business support, saving time and accelerating progress.



The UK Agritech Centre is focused on **four strategic themes** to support the acceleration of ideas to impactful solutions for UK agri-food businesses:

- **Sustainable Production:** Optimising production efficiency while transitioning to net zero and maintaining and enhancing ecosystems.
- **Resilient Systems:** Supporting robust and diverse production systems to build more resilient food systems.
- **One Health:** Enhancing welfare, safety, nutrition, and quality of agricultural products.
- **Intelligent Agriculture:** Harnessing the power of intelligent agriculture, including automation, robotics, data, and AI to transform current agricultural practices and tackle global economic, environmental, and social challenges.





# Spotlight

The Centre for Novel Agricultural Products leads research into the fundamental processes driving biological systems.



These insights are applied to solve some of the world's most pressing environmental, societal, and industrial challenges – harnessing the power of nature to develop innovative products and processes.

The CNAP aims to realise the potential of plant, microbial and algal-based renewable resources through gene discovery.

From developing sustainable food crops and biofuels to advancing plants for land decontamination, CNAP maximises the value of plants without compromising food security.



# Talk to us today



Tracey Taylor-Preston  
Sector Development Relationship Manager,  
Agritech & Industrial Biotechnology

Get in touch now at  
**[invest@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk](mailto:invest@yorknorthyorks-ca.gov.uk)**

Or click [here](#) to visit the Invest in  
York & North Yorkshire [website](#).