

Nottinghamshire County Council

Inward Investment Framework DRAFT



working with



Nottinghamshire County Council's Inward Investment Framework DRAFT

This framework has been created for:

Landowners

Businesses

Developers

Local Authorities and Key Partners

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Foreword

To understand the shift in current and future inward investment markets, The Council commissioned a report with Breeze Strategy Limited to confirm the best green growth opportunities for Nottinghamshire and to inform a targeted framework for seeking inward investment towards sustainable and green growth.

Inward investment is a buyer's market. More so than ever. This means we must always understand and respond to investors' changing wants and needs. This framework is to outline the basis for an approach to inward investment that can flex in this moving market. It details growth trajectories and demand for sites and skills; emerging and high-growth opportunities across sectors; the key location factors and potential site requirements; and a prioritisation plan that sets out the optimum current market and sub-sector opportunities for Nottinghamshire.

To support the report findings, this framework is published for consultation to ensure the best opportunities for Nottinghamshire, and so all interested parties can be part of delivering the plans for growth and investment. This means capitalising on our strengths in digital connectivity and our central location and great transport links, focusing on environmental and social responsibility, and upskilling and retaining talent to ensure Nottinghamshire remains competitive in the UK and international markets.

Our Inward Investment Framework is about drawing the best out of the County's unique selling points, catalysing sustainable business growth, and creating a greener, healthier, more prosperous Nottinghamshire. The Framework will play a key role in ensuring we deliver our Council ambition to make Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit. It is about our shared ambition to enable inward investment projects allowing for further revitalisation and invigoration of places around our county.



Cllr Keith Girling

In the scenario of reducing land availability, smarter working, and higher costs, Nottinghamshire needs a more integrated approach to attracting businesses to meet their expectations for sustained future growth.

There is work needed to re-energise the approach to investment, to develop more partnerships on positive corporate social governance and realise potential. Our regional drive towards self-sufficiency, toward devolution and pro climate, has never been stronger. We have also seen significant advances through the pandemic, in the ways people are able to do business and deliver products and services.

It is important that we reflect structural market changes and the way they influence business decisions to invest in our places long-term. The framework focusses on continuing the vital work we are already delivering, unlocking Nottinghamshire's untapped potential, and engaging regional and national partners to drive our vision forwards

This framework is one that will continue to evolve in response to changing circumstances and has been built in a way that will allow us to continue to draw on the expertise and knowledge available in our region. It is fundamental that we continue to build an investment profile that is resilient, sustainable, and agile to be able to respond to opportunities and challenges as they continue to evolve.

Nottinghamshire has great building blocks with which we can nurture a new generation of green inward investment, and this framework is the first step in converting these opportunities into sustainable growth.

Introduction

Why Nottinghamshire needs an Inward Investment Framework

Delivering The Nottinghamshire Plan

The Nottinghamshire Plan, sets a vision of a "healthy, green and prosperous Nottinghamshire," and lays out nine Ambitions. This Inward Investment Framework is intended to work towards achieving the following of the Ambitions and Council Plan Vision:

- Improving health and wellbeing in all our communities
- Growing our economy and improving living standards
- Reducing the County's impact on the environment
- Helping everyone access the best of Nottinghamshire



The Inward Investment Framework will provide a vision for the future inward investment landscape and demonstrate how it will positively impact at least these four Ambitions:



"Building skills that help people get aood iobs"

"Strengthening businesses and creating more good-quality jobs"



"Making Nottinghamshire somewhere people love to live, work and visit"



"Attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy and green growth"

Delivering The Economic Transition Plan

Nottinghamshire County Council has also developed the Economic Transition Plan to focus on transforming our local economy through placing the interests of our communities and businesses at its heart, whilst also driving investment and improvements across the county.

The plan is built on six themes of people, business, the visitor economy, infrastructure, digital connectivity, and place, which will collectively enable Nottinghamshire to thrive.

The commissioning of this Inward Investment Framework includes cross-cutting links to the Economic Transition Plan, including:

- Building skills employers seek.
- Supporting businesses to grow and thrive, build resilience, and prepare for the future.
- Digital technologies to improve business productivity and inclusion of access.
- Infrastructure projects that are feasible, deliverable, and affordable.
- Attracting more visitors from a cross the UK and overseas and creating conditions for businesses to thrive.
- Maximising the opportunity our assets provide.

Our objectives are to:

"Focus on transforming the local economy through placing interests of communities and businesses at heart, whilst driving investment and improvements across the County."

Toward our framework for inward investment this means:

Growth

Develop our local business growth offer in context of changing markets.

2. Talent

"Putting our people first": Actualise potential, align skills to employers' needs, avoid job displacement.

3. Sustainability

Leadership in social and environment impact, levelling up for lasting impact.



Opportunities to Level Up

With close links to increased productivity, wages, and employment, inward investment has the potential to be a key conduit for levelling up Nottinghamshire and the wider East Midlands region.

Despite the United Kingdom's economic challenges over the past three years, inward investment has remained strong, outperforming the expected drop in FDI (foreign direct investment) in 2020 compared to 2019 and recovering into 2021 and 2022.

The UK has seen investors bring over 1,500 projects and 55,000 new jobs to all corners of the UK, with over £10 billion in large capital investment or committed to invest¹. The EY UK Attractiveness Survey 2022 found that:

- Inward investments into the UK rose by 1.8% in 2021 to 993 projects, regaining lost ground after a 12% fall in 2020.
- The stronger growth in projects across Europe, at 5.4%, meant the UK's European market share slipped to 16.9%, its second lowest in 10 years.
- Investors' views of the UK as an FDI location have improved in 2022, with 58% planning to invest – giving grounds for optimism over future growth².

UK foreign investment remains strong, in spite of recent economic shocks, due to the attractiveness of UK fundamentals. Performance within the UK has varied but promising figures have come out of the East Midlands, with our region seeing the greatest number of new jobs from international inward investment projects compared to other regions, outside of London.

A key part for this success was the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership, which landed 33 single-site FDI projects in 2021-22³.

Whilst international investment creates thousands of jobs in the UK annually, foreign direct investment is only one element of inward investment. Two-thirds of projects are existing business expansions.

Local, regional, and national expansion makes up a sizeable portion of the inward investment landscape for Nottinghamshire. There is untapped potential to be seized to benefit local people, businesses, and the wider economy, and improve wellbeing for everyone.

With the County's excellent connectivity to the world via road, rail, and air networks as well as its competitive strengths in digital connectivity and the advanced manufacturing sector, Nottinghamshire is a place in which inward investment, with the right framework and action, can flourish.



FDI projects in the UK between 2017-2018 and 2021-2022

¹ Department for International Trade Inward Investment Results 2020/21, June 2021 www.gov.uk/government/statistics/department-for-international-trade-inward-investment-results-2020-to-2021

² EY Attractiveness Survey, 2022 www.ey.com/en_gl/attractiveness/ey-europe-attractiveness-survey

³ According to the Department for International Trade report 2021-22 www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-international-trade-annual-report-and-accounts

What is inward investment?

Levels of Inward Investment

The term inward investment has nuanced differences depending through which lens it is viewed. At the national level, inward investment refers to foreign direct investment or, any new cross-border project or expansion which is undertaken by a foreign entity or company.

At the local level, this definition is extended to include projects by both foreign and UK businesses.

In most results, at both national and local levels, inward investment successes include new projects, expansions, and in some cases, mergers, and acquisitions.

The closer the target market, the more important it is. Local Authorities in Nottinghamshire are more able to influence at the local level, with partners being better placed nationally and internationally.

For the purposes of this document, the broader definition, covering all levels of market, will be used when referring to inward investment.

Key Findings

- 62% of UK growth is from expanding businesses, not new business.
- Access to talent is the top priority for all investors.
- To be effective, place marketing should involve research, monitoring, networking, engagement, and agile opportunityspotting.
- To unlock developments, or bring forward key infrastructure and innovations, the right local offer can draw on capital from investors, developers, and Government finance.
- Global markets can be accessed through regional and national bodies, which are well resourced for activity.
- Most future jobs are expected to arise from local and regional, rather than global markets.

Types of Inward Investment

Inward investment is more than attracting new businesses. Business expansion and retention, talent attraction, and capital attraction are all important types of investment, with access to talent being a key driver in all of these.







Business Expansion and Retention





Capital Attraction

Talent Attraction

UK Market The UK market is often overlooked but opportunities from London & South East in particular should provide prospects for Invest in Nottingham.

Projects Jobs

Global Markets

Department for Business and Trade and the Office for Investment are best placed to engage global markets and in tandem with Midlands Engine and Invest in Nottingham as local delivery partners.

Local Market

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire partners are placed to support and encourage local companies and existing investors. This is where the majority of jobs will come from in the future.



Nottinghamshire C

New business attraction is the classic understanding of inward investment and what it entails. In the overwhelming number of cases, this is an expansion into a new area rather than a relocation. It could be a new, job-creating expansion project by a local, regional, national, or global entity.

Capital attraction is a key part of the inward investment mix, attracting new capital investment that unlocks developments or brings forward key infrastructure projects. Examples of investment can be that sourced from institutional investors, property developers, Government infrastructure financing, and innovation funding.

Inward investment growth comes from sophisticated research and monitoring, professional networking and engagement, and agile opportunity-spotting in addition to, rather than as a sole result of, place marketing activities. A fair approach to Growth must also address the diversity and inclusion needs of local places and this requires the collaboration and insight of experienced partners to enable this.

> Artist impression: Air and Space Institute (Newark). Credit: Lincoln College

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Who is this framework for?

This framework has been created for:



1. Businesses

Existing and future businesses, from local microenterprises to multinational corporations. This Inward Investment Framework is key for communicating the County Council's intentions for inward investment activity. We want businesses to know our vision of making Nottinghamshire the best place to operate. In this framework, we will lay out a top-level vision that will incorporate all the types of inward investment and what we will aim to do to improve the capacity for each.



2. Landowners

The individuals and organisations who own developable land or whose land currently sites businesses. We want to communicate our plans, giving suggestions of how they can market and improve their land offerings.



3. Developers

Intricately linked to landowners, developers are the people and organisations who create spaces, repurpose land, and market sites. Addressed in this document will be the concept of kitemarking sites. We want to make it clear where gaps in offerings are by establishing a ladder of accommodation for businesses and developers alike.

4. Local Authorities and Key Partners

Creating a framework to work towards will keep us accountable. It will also help show our partners in the districts and boroughs what our intentions are and hopefully guide decision making into a united effort. The overall goal is to work in collaboration across the Local Authorities and other key partners to channel our efforts.



Current Inward Investment Landscape

Due to the broader definition of inward investment used, it is useful to lay out all the different organisations that operate within Nottinghamshire's inward investment landscape:

| Role |
|---|
| The National Government of and investment. DBT works with global, nati managing nationally signific |
| A Government agency set u tier investment into the UK. opportunities that closely m net zero. |
| A pan-regional, apolitical pa focal point to drive econom opportunities of the Midlan Portfolio ⁴ , highlights and pr |
| Run and governed by a priv businesses, local authorities others – the LEP works in p productive, and sustainable Nottinghamshire. Its inward European Regional Develop targeting SMEs to invest in t |
| Nottinghamshire has great through to our high-quality These are critical for the ma with colleges and universitie students into apprenticeshi The role of primary and sec these providing the develop infrastructure projects such |
| The County Council plays a organisations to facilitate the sites. It acts as a coordinate within Nottinghamshire as Council also promotes the engaging with investors, bo |
| Nottingham City Council pr Council however, it general City Council works closely investment activities. |
| |

⁴ Investment Portfolio – Midlands Engine (midlandsinvestmentportfolio.org)

department responsible for cross-country trade

tional, and regional partners on accountcant existing investors.

up in 2020 to provide support in securing top-. They are involved with high value investment match government priorities, such as achieving

partnership that convenes, connects, and acts as a mic growth. It helps promote sector strengths and ids and, in producing the Midlands Investment romotes key sites in the region.

vate sector led board and supported by es, and skills and education providers amongst partnership to secure a more prosperous, e future for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham, and d investment role included coordinating the pment Funded programme, Invest in D2N2, the area, which concluded in October 2022.

education establishments from primary schools y colleges and two world-renowned universities.

aintenance and development of talent pipelines, es already providing vital connections for ips and employment.

condary education cannot be understated, with pment of talent for future large scale h as the STEP Fusion Power Plant in West Burton.

a significant role in partnering with other he planning and delivery of key inward investment or, collaborator, and supporter of local authorities well as key partners and businesses. The County local area and supports organisations that are oth new and existing.

provides a very similar role to that of the County ally operates within the boundaries of the city. The with and supports Invest in Nottingham in inward

| Invest in Nottingham | Invest in Nottingham delivers inward investment activity for the area, promoting Nottingham as a business and investment destination and offers support to businesses looking to relocate or expand within Nottingham. They collaborate closely with partners, including Nottinghamshire County Council, to represent key development sites through promotional activities, as well as contributing intelligence to support project work. |
|----------------------------------|---|
| District and Borough Councils | The seven districts and boroughs in Nottinghamshire provide a range of economic development activity and inward investment support. With a greater knowledge of their local area, the districts are best posed to provide information, marketing, and support to key partners. Nottinghamshire County Council works in partnership with these local authorities to ensure a joined-up approach and maximum leverage is achieved. |
| Other Key Partners | Other key partners in the inward investment landscape include, but are not limited to, businesses, skills and training providers, community and voluntary services organisations. Agencies and organisations that also play a vital role include East Midlands Development Company, East Midlands Freeport, East Midlands Airport, East Midlands Chamber, and the Environment Agency. These partners are either impacted by or have an impact on the inward investment activity in Nottinghamshire and are integral to the county's inward investment proposition. All play a key role in developing the talent, sites, connectivity, and environment that will attract, retain, and grow investment in the future. |

The current landscape of inward investment in Nottinghamshire sees national players like the Department for Business and Trade, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Office for Investment, sourcing major strategic international projects; with strong regional support from Midlands Engine and D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership. These regional supporters produce portfolios and guidance relevant to inward investment potential and needs.

On the ground locally, it is Nottinghamshire's local authorities who are providers of support and knowledge of their communities and assets. They provide expertise and infrastructure to allow for inward investment activity to take place.

There is space between these two groups for a key conduit that matches prospective investors to local areas which is filled by Invest in Nottingham.



What are Nottinghamshire's target markets?

Inward Investment Market

Global Markets: Department for Business and Trade and the Office for Investment are best placed to engage global markets and in tandem with Midlands Engine and Invest in Nottingham as local delivery partners. At the international level, major inward investment sources have recently been North America, India, and Europe and inward investment can come from anywhere, with just one major inward investor having the potential to make a significant impact in Nottinghamshire.

The sector breakdown of foreign direct investment success shows the breadth of sectors that are creating jobs in the UK. There is strong investment across sectors in the 2021-22 UK results.

- Software and Computer Services are by far the largest source of jobs and projects.
- Environment, Infrastructure and Transport comes second.
- Advanced Engineering, Business Services, Financial Services, Food & Drink, and Wholesale all attracted more than 100 inward investment projects each⁵.

⁵ Department for International Trade annual results, 2021-22 www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-international-trade-annual-report-and-accounts

- **UK Market:** The UK market is often overlooked but opportunities from London & the South East in particular provide new prospects for Nottinghamshire. At the regional level, Midlands Engine identifies specific categories to target, with work ongoing to map clusters in more detail.
- In Nottinghamshire these could include:
- Food & Drink
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Net Zero Transport Technologies
- Digital Security
- Digital Data
- EdTech
- Life Sciences
- Textiles

Local Market: Nottinghamshire partners are best placed to support and encourage local businesses and existing investors. This is where most of jobs will come from in the future. Nottinghamshire has six strong industry sectors that cover a wide range of opportunities:

- Creative & Digital
- Life Sciences
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Financial & Business Services
- Logistics
- Food & Drink

Future investment from any of these sectors could be transformational for Nottinghamshire, and therefore a sector agnostic approach would avoid pigeonholing Nottinghamshire's offer to the detriment of attracting future projects. For case studies of high-growth opportunities, see Annex A.

What are the trends impacting inward investment in Nottinghamshire?

Market Growth Drivers: Why businesses expand

Changing and faster moving technology and global and financial markets drives business to go digital, innovate, and expand.

The pandemic has undoubtedly changed the fundamentals of why, how, and where businesses locate. Both industry and unpredictable geopolitical events have played a role in accelerating change. These trends create opportunities and threats for Nottinghamshire.

Expansions typically create up to seven times more jobs than new investors. Many businesses look to expand through partnerships or joint ventures, some through merger or acquisition, rather than establishing their own new facility. Consideration of how best to support diverse types of entry plays a key role in an inward investment team.

Effective approaches to business expansion include co-creation of training and skills initiatives, supply-chain support and matchmaking, and addressing areas of concern including skills, transport, and planning.



Venture Capital

Record venture capital levels have been invested in high-growth companies with hundreds of newly created scaleups valued at more than a billion dollars. This has created a new cohort of ambitious companies, many in and around London, that will require additional sites and premises in the coming years⁸.



Tech-celeration

Accelerated technology adoption (partly caused by lockdowns) has created a huge growth in existing industries such as ecommerce, cybersecurity, and fintech⁹.



New Innovations

Every sector and industry are also being disrupted by technology and the rise of innovative new products, services, and processes. These changes are creating brand new sectors and opportunities from vertical farming to vertical take-off and landing taxis¹⁰.



Global Britain

Post-Brexit has given rise to challenges and opportunities from legislative changes affecting regulations to shifting trading relationships⁶.

The UK has seen rising investment opportunities in places where new trade deals are in place such as Australia, Japan, and Singapore. Whilst businesses are becoming more cognisant of cybersecurity issues and environmental impact of those further up the supply-chain⁷.





Source: Department for International Trade

⁶ CNBC, October 2021 <u>www.cnbc.com/2021/10/19/uk-secures-13-billion-of-investment-as-it-seeks-to-overcome-post-brexit-slump.html</u> ⁷ Nikkei Asia, February 2021 <u>https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/UK-China-relations-slip-from-Golden-Age-to-Ice-Age</u>



⁸ UKTN, May 202 <u>www.uktech.news/funding/vc-funding/london-vc-unicorns-early-stage-20220519</u>
 ⁹ The Economist, November 2020

www.economist.com/the-world-ahead/2020/11/16/new-technological-behaviours-will-outlast-the-pandemic ¹⁰ Manufacturing Digital, November 2021 <a href="https://manufacturingdigital.com/top10/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.com/top10-innovations-manufacturingdigital.co

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Inward Investment Framework

Talent Drivers: Where businesses expand & what matters

Access to the skills for the future and digital and flexible working productivity gains are driving key location decisions.

The top factor for businesses when choosing a new location is access to talent¹¹. The importance of access to talent for businesses is aligned with this form of inward investment which focusses on nurturing and growing the pipeline of skilled people by upskilling those already here, as well as attracting talent from outside the area. Developing the right skills for the future needs of the economy is vital and there is a role for academic and business partnerships to help align education and skills with existing employers' needs – both present and future.



Rebalance

There has also been a change to how people work, with a greater importance being placed on hybrid working and changes to commuting patterns.

Adjusted work-life priorities with hybrid working will make competing far more complex. An increasing number of people are working from home and of these, a vast majority have reported it to have had a positive impact on well-being and productivity.

Workers are seeking a different work-life balance and businesses are having to account for work-from-home and hybrid solutions. Work from home and hybrid models are resulting in differences in size and location of office spaces being required¹².





Recruit

Skills shortages are impacting businesses whichever sector they are operating in, from engineers to IT, drivers to farm workers. The 'war for talent' is driving businesses to compete in new ways and is a key factor in choosing business locations.

Other principal factors include cost, sites, and quality of life. Each company will have different preferences and weightings, but being able to hire the right people, today and in the future, is vital in any sector or industry.

Businesses are increasingly viewing expansion and relocation as key tools in the fighting the talent war. Locations that can demonstrate population growth, a young workforce and an ability to attract skilled people will do well¹³.

Employers are finding it more difficult to attract and retain talent, having to operate in an environment where wage gaps are present and movements like the "Great Resignation"¹⁴ are exacerbating the talent shortage and impacting on where firms choose to locate.

¹¹ Area Development, Q1 2022

www.areadevelopment.com/Corporate-Consultants-Survey-Results/q1-2022/18th-annual-consultants-survey.shtml

¹² City A.M., May 2021 www.cityam.com/exclusive-quarter-of-uk-businesses-to-close-or-downsize-offices-as-uk-embraces-hybrid-working/ City A.M., April 2022 www.cityam.com/deloitte-exits-more-london-offices-after-setting-out-permanent-work-from-home-policy/ ¹³ HR News, August 2022 <u>https://hrnews.co.uk/the-talent-tug-of-war-over-half-of-uk-employers-struggle-to-land-employees/</u> BBC News, April 2022 <u>www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20220421-what-the-war-for-worker-talent-really-looks-like</u>
 ¹⁴ The Great Resignation is an ongoing trend in which employees have resigned from their jobs en masse, beginning in early 2021

¹⁴ The Great Resignation is an ongoing trend in which employees have resigned from their jobs en masse, beginning in early 2021. Causes include wage stagnation amid rising cost of living, job dissatisfaction, safety concerns relating to the pandemic, and the desire to work for businesses with better remote working policies: HBR, March 2022 <u>https://hbr.org/2022/03/the-great-resignation-didnt-start-with-the-pandemic</u>

Sustainability Drivers: How businesses choose to expand

Shorter supply chains, labour gaps, and climate needs are driving decisions to re-shore or relocate for financial, social, and environmental gains.

Becoming more important for individuals and businesses are sustainability concerns:

Individuals' behaviour continues to change, impacting the way people work, travel, and spend leisure time. Consumers are increasingly looking to buy from those with green credentials and look for jobs that align with their ethical considerations.

Businesses are seeing operational costs change due to unforeseeable international situations,

making relocation as well as a move towards more sustainable operations more carefully considered options. Sustainability changes are likely to be mandated in the future, with the potential for legislation changes arising from COP events.

Considering social and environmental impact will be important not just to adhere to changing legislation but to ensure business remain competitive and attractive to talent.



Climate

The increasing importance of talent attraction as well as business attraction is a key factor in addressing skills shortages and the much sought-after Generation Z workforce (those born in the late 1990s or early 2000s) are far more likely to be motivated by environmental and ethical concerns than previous generations¹⁹.

Climate events are also becoming even more critical and will continue to shape the future of the global economy. COP agreements have significant impacts on inward investment²⁰. Although the climate emergency poses an imminent threat to businesses, there are opportunities to be seized.

Throughout 2022, availability and security of energy sources have added to growing global uncertainty, with knock on effects on supply-chains²¹. Energy independence is a major issue that is likely to see far greater investment in nuclear and renewable energy solutions in the UK. Rising sectors such as cleantech and new energy solutions have been leading the way.

Relocate

The pandemic has accelerated the trend toward shorter supply-chains that was already underway. Rethinking of supply chains arose from concerns over resilience, costs, and carbon footprint¹⁵.

As corporate strategists respond with more resilient arrangements, many have opted to "reshore" operations back to the UK¹⁶.

There are also increasing opportunities from Government relocations as the public sector seeks solutions that help level up areas outside of London and the South East¹⁷.

Rebuild

Environmental and Social Governance is increasingly a key factor in choosing locations. Places that can combine climate resilience and environmental considerations with development and sustainable economic growth will be able to offer a higher quality of life, making them attractive relocation destinations for talent¹⁸.



STEP Fusion Energy Reactor Illustration



¹⁹ Green Biz, August 2022 www.greenbiz.com/article/how-make-sure-your-esg- framework-appeals-younger-generations ²⁰ Environment Agency, June 2022 www.gov.uk/government/speeches/serious-business-why-our-environment-is-the-ultimate-investment ²¹ The Times, April 2022 <u>www.thetimes.co.uk/article/western-arms-makers-set-to-reap-the-spoils-of-ukraine-war-wgktkq</u>

- ¹⁵ Los Angeles Times, August 2022 <u>www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2022-08-28/foreign-businesses-decoupling-from-china-challenges</u>
- ¹⁶ Supply Chain Digital, August 2022 <u>https://supplychaindigital.com/logistics/is-reshoring-the-solution-for-supply-chain-disruptions</u> ¹⁷ Civil Service World, February 2022
- www.civilserviceworld.com/in-depth/article/more-than-15000-civil-service-job-relocations-have-now-been-announced
- ¹⁸ McKinsey, 2022 <u>www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/sustainability/our-insights/how-to-make-esg-real</u> Forbes, October 2021 www.forbes.com/sites/joanmichelson2/2021/10/14/6-ways-companies-are-pivoting-in-a-post-covid-esg-focused-economy/?sh=46155e9c5bc8

How can Nottinghamshire attract inward investment?

Investor & Partnership Approach

On a global level, the UK scores fourth in the world on the Kearney FDI Confidence Index, possessing factors that businesses have indicated are most important to them²². Of these national factors, some can be influenced at the county level, including technological and innovation capabilities, talent and skill level of the labour pool, and quality of digital infrastructure.

To stand out as an optimal place to invest in, along with factors that investing businesses find important, we can work in partnership at different levels and target action to business decisions and rationale, where we can have the most impact. Some important location factors can be found at Annex C.

An action plan will be developed to align with this and be kept up to date and prioritised based on the shifting market position. Nottinghamshire will work in partnership at national, regional, and local levels to agree a joint action plan that enables:

To ensure this business responsive approach aligns our ongoing commitment to the environment and our planning and transport authority obligations, the action plan will be reviewed in line with our vision for a greener, healthier, and prosperous Nottinghamshire.

This includes enabling an annual review of the action plan alongside with any relevant strategic planning and environmental impact documents we publish.

To support the annual review of the action plan and project planning, an action planning framework will contain a strategic checklist of factors to compare with each action to ensure more targeted and quality interventions are developed and delivered. These are all areas of local and regional knowledge that will be valuable to potential investors.

Snapshot from 2021 of expansion projects by UK companies²³:

| Company | Location of expansion | Jobs created | Industry |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| ASOS | Staffordshire | 2000 | Logistics |
| Rosalind Franklin Laboratory | Warwickshire | 1500 | Life Sciences |
| Just Eat | Sunderland | 1500 | Customer Services |
| BT | Birmingham | 1000 | Telecoms |
| Utterberry | Leeds | 800 | Sensors |
| John Lewis | Milton Keynes | 500 | Logistics |
| JCB | Staffs, Derbs, Wrexham | 450 | Automotive |
| Clipper | Leicestershire | 300 | Logistics |
| Huboo | Bristol | 300 | Ecommerce |
| Harland & Wolff | Fife | 290 | Offshore Energy |
| British Rototherm | Port Talbot | 250 | Medical |
| Xplor | Newcastle | 200 | Fintech |
| Ofcom | Manchester | 150 | Government |

Impact: Target action to drivers of business decisions and top industries

- Alignment: With our ongoing commitments, including to social value, environment and planning and transport authority obligations
- **Responsiveness:** Regular review of shared priorities and the action plan





²² Kearney Foreign Direct Investment Confidence Index, 2022 <u>www.kearney.com/foreign-direct-investment-confidence-index/2022-full-report</u>

²³ Breeze Strategy Research of Recent Announcements 2021-22

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Current priorities



Market Growth

We will need to target innovation businesses and access to finance:

- Engage fast growing businesses with good fit for Nottinghamshire industries.
- Support to seize new free trade opportunities and take advantage of transport and connected freight links.

An early aim must be to identify and engage with fast growing innovation businesses that have a good fit for Nottinghamshire and to capitalise on their rapid growth & global aspirations.

Nottinghamshire is at a prime location in the country to build upon global trade and investment links. Nottinghamshire County Council will support businesses to seize new free trade opportunities that could arise from freeports investment and developer zones, and connected freight and passenger links. Nottinghamshire's great transport links, with its road, rail and air connectivity, will be key growth enablers.

Talent Attraction

Nottinghamshire has made progress on skills and training to ensure that the jobs of the future will be local jobs; and our schools, universities and colleges continue to build on this.

Many of the "green jobs of the future" are traditional skills which are increasingly in short supply in the UK – such as carpenters to work on green construction; motor engineers building electric vehicles; electricians servicing wind farms; and the drivers that will move goods in a sustainable way.

We will need to:

- Confirm upskilling routes to address labour shortages, fill green jobs roles and deliver future goods and services.
- Achieve through strong relationships between community, industry, and education partners.

Early work is needed to confirm the upskill routes to fill these roles over the medium and longer term and enable a long-term pipeline into green jobs, through the development of strong relationships between community, industry, and education partners.

Sustainable Levelling Up of Places

Nottinghamshire Councils can together play a significant role in the future economic development and inward investment success of the area. Place-led work with the Districts and Boroughs will help to identify which industries they want to grow whilst aligning with local plans, including through levelling up and towns fund opportunities.

We will need to:

- Agree which industries partners most need to grow to benefit Nottinghamshire places. Align with local plans, levelling up and towns fund opportunities.
- Work with Midlands Engine and the government on at-scale site regeneration and develop approaches for green growth of strategic sites.

Work with the Midlands Engine and the government to create prospectuses that demonstrate opportunities for large scale site regeneration and development opportunities is a positive step that can be built on.



Locations that want to attract future inward investors need to be able to offer a wide choice of potential sites and premises that cover the whole growth lifecycle of a company. This ladder is important as it demonstrates a clear growth pathway for ambitious businesses (see Annex B for additional information).

Adopting a classification or kitemarking system for strategic sites is something that will be considered. This would be based on what investors are likely to be most interested in or concerned about, such as ownership, planning, environmental issues, connectivity, utility provisions and capacity, access to workforce and skills.

This categorisation would help investors and partners to establish at a glance which sites are "investor-ready", and which are "longterm opportunities". Offering transparency to investors provides assurance and confidence in the process. It also helps landowners to focus on what improvements to their site are most likely to enhance its marketability.

Our vision for Nottinghamshire

Invest in Market Growth

🔰 1. Growth

Develop our local business growth offer in context of changing markets.

The pre-existing framework of inward investment services in the county has produced good results already and this work will be enhanced by:

- Identifying how the county's business ecosystem can be enhanced with focus on key factors for growth and expansion.
 - Extending our reach and ability to undertake more of the business development activities which contribute to inward investment success.
- Using a holistic approach when working with existing investors to ensure incumbent high-growth business needs are met.
 - Identifying high-growth local companies and their needs to retain and expand their operation within the county.
 - Support existing and emerging smaller enterprise place makers, employers, and community makers to develop their business growth plans.

Continuing to deliver high quality business support.

- To businesses already operating within our county, or who want to move here.
- Providing information, advice, and services to help assist responsible businesses improve their performance while complying with Trading Standards and consumer regulation.

 Establishing a working group looking at options to develop inward investment support funding and in-kind incentives including soft-landing packages and creative financing options.

Championing Nottinghamshire as a place to set up and expand with good tech, logistics, digital infrastructure and innovative strengths.

- Strengthening partnerships to broaden the high tech and innovation business funding base.
- Promote the benefits of Nottinghamshire as the perfect hybrid and environmentally beneficial working location, with high quality of life.
- Promote the inward investment offer in Nottinghamshire to improve our national profile for prospective investors.

Increasing work on capital attraction and joint commissioning help to promote portfolio opportunities.

• Committing to finding long-term resources from traditional and innovative funding sources to provide a functioning, county-wide investment service.



Developing an action plan to measure our success.

 The action plan will connect and strengthen work on business attraction, retention and expansion, talent and capital attraction, and low carbon places.



 Consider the pathway to development and delivery of the major opportunities offered by strategic growth sites like the West Burton STEP Site, Advanced Manufacturing and Distribution Centre, Ratcliffe-on-Soar, and Top Wighay.

Invest in Talent Pipelines

2. Talent

"Putting our people first": Actualise potential, align skills to employers' needs, avoid job displacement.

Access to current and future talent and skills remains paramount to inward investors' decision-making process. Nottinghamshire County Council will place people at the heart of its investment approach. By supporting inclusive and relevant education and skills provision, we will work toward maximising the chances of people actualising their potential.

To continue ensuring Nottinghamshire is a place people love to live, work, and visit, we will foster a pool of skilled and motivated individuals with the right talent to match current and future business needs. To achieve this, the Council will strive to:

Grow attractive talent and continue to invest in skills for future to develop a pool of skilled and motivated individuals matched to business needs.

- Adopt a strategy which focusses on flexible sites and ensuring that the pipeline of talent is as best as can be.
- Develop and strengthen businessacademic partnerships to provide the correct skills for current and future business needs.

Encourage economically inactive and help those furthest from jobs market.

• Encourage currently economically inactive talent back into labour markets through targeted skills and training opportunities.

Focus on entrepreneurship to support innovative start-up activity.

- Focus on entrepreneurship in recognition of the importance of start-up activity to allow for inward investment in other forms.
- Lead the way in hybrid working and emphasise our digital connectivity as ranking in the top three in the UK, with 98.6% superfast coverage and 77.59% gigabit-capable speeds to date.

Champion retention of students at our schools, universities and local colleges.

- Deliver talent attraction campaigns from school age and up in partnership to grow, identify, and attract transformational skills and entrepreneurial talent.
- Improve retention of students from our world-renowned universities and local colleges for local talent growth.

Harness data and intelligence to target support to sectors most in need, including hospitality, the visitor economy and health and social care.

 Work with all local schools, colleges, universities, employers and skills providers to ensure the availability of data and intelligence on existing provision.

Invest in Sustainable Places

3. Sustainability

Leadership in social and environment impact, levelling up for lasting impact.

Nottinghamshire has a wide range of competitive advantages to be celebrated and championed alongside the needs to apply best practice in sustainability and social value. Promoting strengths that the county already has, and is developing, plays a key role.

The Council will aim to:

Deliver a strong place marketing function, targeting investor priorities.

- Continue to strengthen our competitive advantages, focussing on factors that inward investors and place partners find most important.
- Promote our central location with a range of sustainable and high-quality transport options, access to wider markets, talent and, the ease of doing business.



~

Develop a ladder of property options and a kitemarking standard for sites.

- Maintain intelligence and current availability status of sites.
- Work with partners to develop a ladder of property options to suit every stage in the business growth cycle from workspace for start-ups to major development sites.

Lead by example on our net zero commitments and support business with positive social impacts.

- Fulfil our net zero commitments and prioritise businesses with corporate social responsibility and low carbon credentials.
- Work with partners and professionals to continue a commitment to diversity and inclusion in and out of the workplace.
- Champion the Levelling Up of place for shared sustainable growth and investment in strong, healthy communities.
 - Respond to evolving high streets and online retail and business habits.
 - Develop further opportunities for digital enhancements, community and visitor engagement and new maker spaces.

• Improve area attractiveness and create healthier places. From levelling up sites to maximising the value in public estates, and brownfield potential.

Partnership working towards devolution and other regional growth.

- Continue partnership working through devolution and other channels to develop a shared approach for inward investment.
- Celebrate and encourage each local areas' economic development and inward investment activity as part of a united Nottinghamshire approach that leverages greater resources for the common goal of promoting the area.

ANNEX A:

Opportunities in Nottinghamshire

The following snapshots of high-growth sub-sectors are an indication of the kinds of opportunities that Nottinghamshire could realistically attract in the future.

Transport: EV Manufacturing

| Sector | Transport & Mobility |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sub-Sectors | Electric Vehicle Manufa |
| Future Growth | The global EV market size is 2022 to 39,208 thousand un just one in 80 cars on the ro by 2030 if net zero ambition existing OEMs reconfiguring all types of vehicles, alongsi |
| Recent Examples | Arrival (Oxfordshire) EV true sq ft building in Oxfordshire for 250 employees at each a Tevva (London) Electric and sq m) unit on 9.85 acres (3.9 Relocation from former site |
| Key Location Factors | Availability of suitable indu Clean, green location. Ability to recruit and train Good transport connective |
| Typical Site Requirements | Smaller 'microfactories': Bas (spec or design and build) of Gigafactories: Firms like Tes German plant is a 300-hect |
| Suitability of Notts | Traditional automotive busin production processes being regions. Notts being located useful but not a prerequisite localised supply-chains, mo There will be opportunities founded yet, as well as furth Tevva and international play |

BINGHAM ARENA

NGHAM

acturing

s projected to grow from 8,151 thousand units in inits by 2030, at a growth rate of 21.7%. In the UK, oad, runs on electricity, with one in three needed ons are to be met. Growth will be shared between g production, and a rise of new entrants across side new battery supply-chains.

cks and vans. Signed a 15-year lease on 120,600 e for their new 'microfactory' model, with plans site.

d hydrogen lorries. New 111,120 sq ft (10,323 .9 hectares), at a rent of £1.65 million per annum. e in Chelmsford, Essex in 2021.

lustrial site.

n skilled workers. vity.

asic modern industrial unit 100-250,000 sq ft on 10-acre site.

sla and Rivian looking for huge scale sites (Tesla's tare (740-acre) site.

inesses tended to cluster more, but with new g pioneered, projects can locate in all kinds of ed close to traditional auto assets in Midlands is e. EV manufacturers are looking to create more ore sustainable processes on net zero sites. with businesses who are emerging or not even ther investment from companies like Arrival and yers seeking larger sites.

Energy: Hydrogen

| Sector | Energy |
|------------------------------|--|
| Sub-Sectors | Hydrogen |
| Future Growth | "As a result of its geography, geology, infrastructure and capabilities, the UK has an important opportunity to demonstrate global leadership in low carbon hydrogen and to secure competitive advantage." (UK Hydrogen Strategy, 2021) By mid-2020s strategy sees a large-scale CCUS-enabled production in at least one location; electrolytic production increasing in scale. By late 2020s, several large-scale CCUS-enabled and electrolytic projects. Hydrogen fuel cells could be used for decarbonising heavy-duty commercial vehicles – making them key to a net zero future. Road freight accounts for about nine per cent of global CO ₂ emissions, with 62 per cent arising from medium and heavy-duty trucking – the hardest-to-abate transport segments. The Advanced Propulsion Centre forecasts that the UK will need 14GW of fuel cell stack production and 400,000 high pressure carbon fibre tanks annually to meet local vehicle production demands by 2035. |
| Recent Examples | McPhy (France) is moving to a new 40,000 sq ft (existing industrial unit) to manufacture zero-carbon hydrogen production and distribution equipment (electrolysers and hydrogen stations) creating 100 new jobs in Grenoble. Johnson Matthey (Hertfordshire) is set to announce a major manufacturing facility next to their corporate headquarters in Royston to be operational by 2024. Shell (Netherlands) is constructing a 200MW electrolyser in the port of Rotterdam – which will produce up to 60,000kg of renewable hydrogen per day. Shell aims to produce hydrogen at the plant using electricity generated by the offshore wind park. |
| Key Location Factors | Access to existing hydrogen skills and talent. Access to supply-chains in a Hydrogen savvy region. Proximity to renewable energy source. |
| Typical Site Requirements | Larger players seeking significant manufacturing sites for gigafactories, other manufacturing facilities are likely to be in the 50,000 to 100,000 sq ft range. |
| Suitability of Notts | Proximity of Midlands Engine Hydrogen Corridor is a major factor which could attract interest from global players. |

Construction: Offsite Manufacturing

| Cooto # | Construction |
|------------------------------|---|
| Sector Sub-Sectors | Construction Offsite Manufacturing |
| Future Growth | Offsite manufacturing can n and greener. Prior to 2022, t elements and structures acc market and the proportion of of Construction (MMC) is cu technology and processes n in next decade, but the sect Unclear that the reality is living going to be a huge breakthr of high-profile closures inclu Splash House at Alfreton and operations in Leicestershire. procurement such as new h |
| Recent Examples | M-AR (Hull) opened their set in 2022. At full capacity, the modules a year which equat factory operative per year. British Offsite (Essex) is open distribution centre in Brainter is an expansion of its 75,000 |
| Key Location Factors | Available sites and premise Good transport connective Available workforce. Proximity to existing HQ. |
| Typical Site Requirements | Large industrial units around with opportunity to scale up |
| Suitability of Notts | £200M Laing O'Rourke Cen (CEMC) in Nottinghamshire. manufacturing facility and e digital engineers and project range of components for us |

make delivery of buildings faster, cheaper, safer, the offsite construction of buildings, building counted for around 2% of the total construction of new UK homes built using Modern Methods urrently between 6-10%. Improvements in mean that there is likely to be significant growth tor is beset by short-term financing issues. Ving up to the hype. Amid forecasts that 2022 was rough year for Offsite Manufacturing, a number cluded Caledonian Modular in Newark, Urban and a scaling back of Countryside's East Midlands e. Growth is likely to accelerate because of public hospitals and schools.

econd 100,000 sq. ft offsite manufacturing facility e large factory is set up to be able to build 400 ates to around five average-sized homes per

ening 137,000 sq. ft off-site manufacturing and cree, Essex in 2022 creating 80 new jobs. The site 0 sq ft factory opened in 2019.

ses. vity.

nd 100,000 sq ft with good transport links, ideally p.

ntre of Excellence for Modern Construction e. It is Europe's most advanced concrete products employs 400 people, who work closely with our ct teams to design, and precision manufacture a use in major building and infrastructure projects.

Agriculture: Innovative Food Production

| Sector | Agriculture |
|------------------------------|---|
| Sub-Sectors | Innovative Food & Drink (Vertical Farming and Hydroponics) |
| Future Growth | Food and Drink is the largest manufacturing sector in the UK, bigger than automotive and aerospace combined. UK Food Strategy (June 2022) focuses on drive to greater self-sufficiency (e.g., UK produces only 15% of tomatoes consumed). Food security and provenance will be growth drivers, but the key growth will come from new technology and innovations such as vertical farming and hydroponics which is expected to see 25% growth rates worth more than \$8billion in next five years. |
| Recent Examples | Jones Food Company (UK) is building world's largest vertical farm in a 140,000 sq. ft industrial unit in Liney, Gloucestershire. which will create 30 new jobs. JFC is backed by Ocado as an investor. Infarm (Germany) opened one of Europe's largest vertical farms in Bedford, which measures 100,000 sq. ft (2.5 acres) in size, has the capacity to grow |
| | millions of crops each year in tall units without soil. Infarm has also created 3 farms in the US too. |
| Key Location Factors | Available sites and premises. Pipeline of skilled workers. Local R&D. |
| Typical Site Requirements | Large modern industrial units (100-200,000 sq. ft) with good transport links and connectivity to regional markets. Low density of employment could be an issue for locations, with 30-50 jobs created at each farm. |
| | Strong agritech credentials and activity at both Nottingham universities, including The Food Innovation Centre, based at the University of |
| | Nottingham. Support to SMEs in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire with the development of new products and processes from conception to consumption. |
| | |

Logistics: Ecommerce

natically accelerated ecommerce adoption rates in the ted growth in demand for logistics sites is set to continue innovations like smaller urban centres and drone the sector but in general the thirst for hue logistics sites i's footprint continues to grow and the US company d a third of all new logistics space leased in the UK. Major DHL, FedEx and UPS are adding new facilities and creating obs (German logistics firm DHL will invest £482m across e operation adding up to 4,000 new jobs, according to ncement). The growth of ecommerce is a key driver in tunities such as commercial EVs, with delivery fleets ripe nd players needing to slash their carbon footprint.

A) announced in 2022 that they had taken 312,000 sq. ft n Kettering, Northants. Rapid expansion in the UK nand for services at a time where e-commerce is driving

ned one of their largest facilities in the UK in 2021, in storey 547,000 sq. ft warehouse will provide jobs for

ht planning consent. ns and transport links. al conurbations.

le appetite for large speculative builds in central

ms of location and connectivity, but concerns over d planning.

ANNEX B:

Ladder of Accommodation

Locations that want to attract future inward investors need to be able to offer a wide choice of potential sites and premises that cover the whole growth life cycle of a company. This ladder is important as it demonstrates a clear growth pathway for ambitious businesses.

Major inward investors rarely start off needing sites at the top of the ladder and will often make initial moves into a location through small offices or even accelerators and serviced offices, irrespective of their size globally.

The following snapshot of market availability shows the Nottinghamshire offer, with the figures in brackets indicating the number of sites outside of the city boundary:

| Site | Area | Nu | mber |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Development Sites | (20+ acres)** | 5 | (4 Notts) |
| Development Sites | 5-20 acres)** | 7 | (6 Notts) |
| Development Sites | (1-5 acres)** | 8 | (7 Notts) |
| Large Industrial | (50,000+ sq. ft)* | 36 | (31 Notts) |
| Large Offices | (50,000+ sq. ft)** | 5 | (2 Notts) |
| Medium Industrial | (10-50,000 sq. ft)* | 63 | (46 Notts) |
| Medium Offices | (10-50,000 sq. ft)* | 36 | (12 Notts) |
| Small Industrial | (up to 10,000 sq. ft)* | 116 | (96 Notts) |
| Small Offices | (up to 10,000 sq. ft)* | 311 | (67 Notts) |
| Incubators and Accelerators | | Yes | (Uncertain) |
| Virtual Serviced Offices | | 62 | (22 Notts) |

*Rent

**Rent or Sale

Source: EG PropertyLink Search 1 July 2022

ANNEX C: **Inward Investment Location Factors Business Support** People Infrastructure Incentives Current talent pool for freight and • Schools, Colleges, In-kind support Universities • Soft-landing programme rail and water • Apprenticeship • Inclusion and Diversity Employers Talent Attraction • Future pipeline • Reskilling and returners • Skills profile • Graduate Retention Sites Digital Research Connectivity • Current availability • Superfast and Gigabit Ladder of capable accommodation broadband • Future pipeline access • Third sector work Supply-chains Environment Costs • Local, Regional, National • Sites, transport, air quality Transparency Gaps and Linkages • Access to climate, • Benchmarking Reshoring community and social value partnerships • Opportunity for quality of place



We want Nottinghamshire to be known as a place businesses can **grow** and **thrive**, where people want to work and have the **skills** employers seek; and where **sustainability** is championed.

Nottinghamshire County Council

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