

# THE AWARDS 2020

## Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Initiative of the Year

<b>Institution name</b>	Teesside University
<b>Submission title or project name</b>	Innovate Tees Valley: Driving a Knowledge-Powered Economy
<b>Nominee/key personnel</b>	
<b>URL</b>	
<b>Submission</b>	<p>“Innovate Tees Valley has firmly established itself as the innovation platform for Tees Valley companies with the ambition to put themselves and our area on the map.” <b>Ben Houchen, Tees Valley Mayor</b></p> <p>How can smaller businesses, with limited time and capacity, exploit the opportunities of the knowledge economy?</p> <p>This is the challenge that Teesside University set out to address with Innovate Tees Valley (ITV), combining four innovation hubs into a strategic service, helping companies to build innovation culture and enter new markets.</p> <p>We set out to develop lasting relationships between SMEs and the knowledge base.</p> <p>SMEs were linked with academic/professional expertise, delivered across a wide range of services, and account-managed by a professional team.</p> <p>The results speak for themselves. In 2018/19, ITV had supported 404 SMEs, 153 new products/services, and 47 new graduate jobs.</p> <p>And the KE partnership that is its legacy now provides a strong foundation for regional economic recovery.</p>