

IOP Institute of Physics

Supplementary evidence to the Commons Science and Technology Committee's quantum technologies inquiry

16 November 2018

The Institute of Physics welcomes the recently announced funding for the next phase of the UK National Quantum Technologies (UKNQT) programme and for the continuation of the Quantum Technology Hubs. The investment reflects the government's commitment to UK leadership in quantum technologies research and recognition of its potential to increase the nation's economic growth and productivity.

The development of quantum technologies is a long-term challenge, requiring a comprehensive, strategic approach, and the initial five-year £270-million UKNQT programme was one of earliest and largest public investments in quantum technologies in the world. The new round of investment is essential to securing and strengthening the position of the UK research base, and furthering progress towards a successful UK quantum technologies industry, at a time when international competitors such as the US are significantly increasing strategic national investment in the field.¹

The investment also provides an important indication to the quantum technologies community of the government's continued support, which is vital if we are to retain expertise currently in the UK and attract potential talent and investors in the UK and overseas. This commitment is of particular importance to potential industrial partners, who need clarity and certainty to underpin long-term investment planning; the government's renewed support will be instrumental in increasing industrial engagement with the development of quantum technologies and delivery of the economic benefits associated with their commercialisation.

About the Institute of Physics

The Institute of Physics is a leading scientific membership society working to advance physics for the benefit of all. We have a worldwide membership ranging from those early in their career or in academic or technical training to those at the top of their fields in academia, business, education and government. Our purpose is to gather, inspire, guide, represent and celebrate all who share a passion for physics. And, in our role as a charity, we aim to ensure that physics delivers on its exceptional potential to benefit society. Alongside professional support for our members, we engage with policymakers and the public to increase awareness and understanding of the value that physics holds for all of us. Our subsidiary company, IOP Publishing, is a world leader in scientific communications, publishing journals, eBooks, magazines and websites globally.

**For more information, contact
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¹ Committee on Science, Space and Technology. House approves the National Quantum Initiative Act <https://science.house.gov/news/press-releases/house-approves-national-quantum-initiative-act>