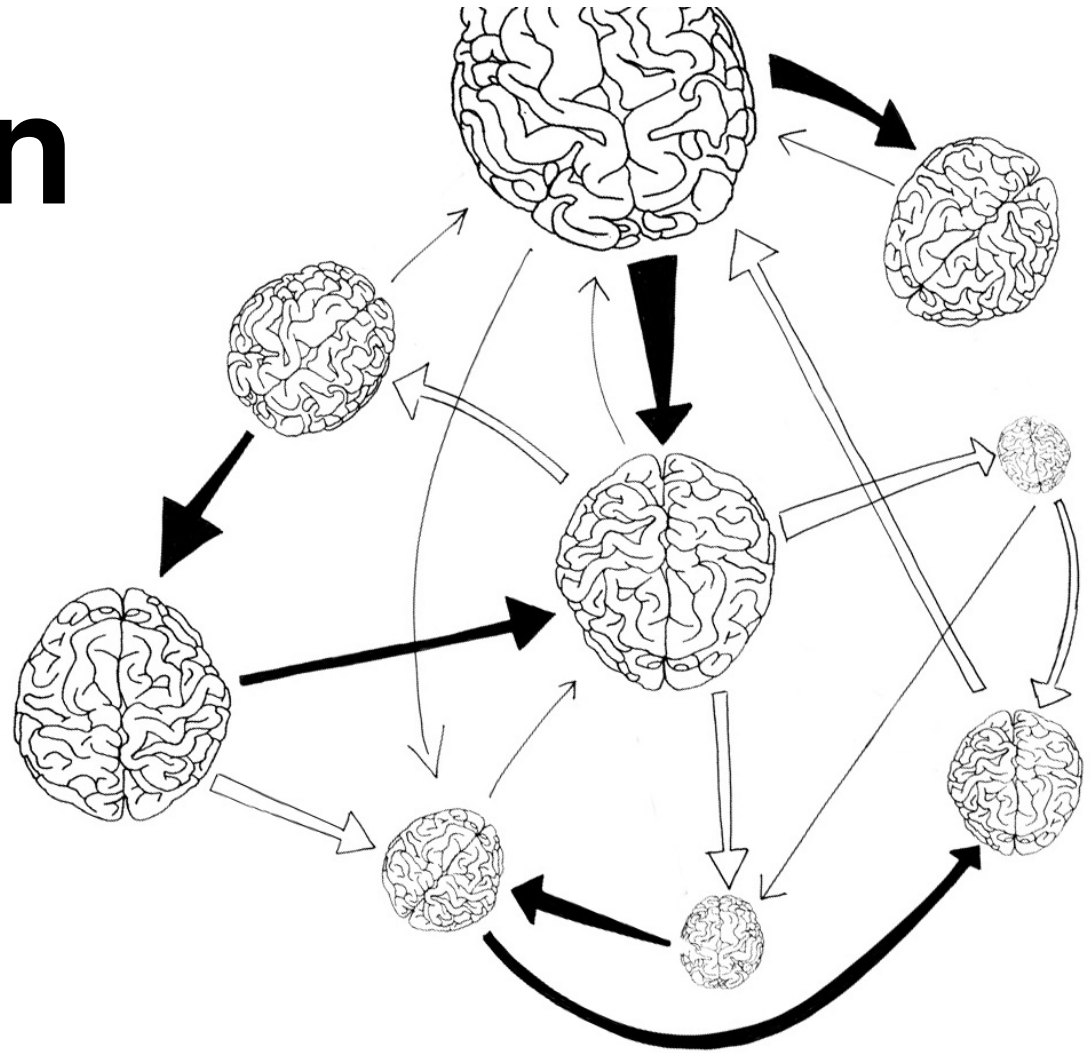


# Innovation Vouchers

Neil Smith  
25<sup>th</sup> September 2009



**Solutions  
for Business**

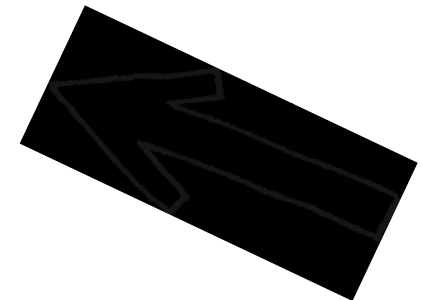
Funded by  
government

Accessed through



# Background

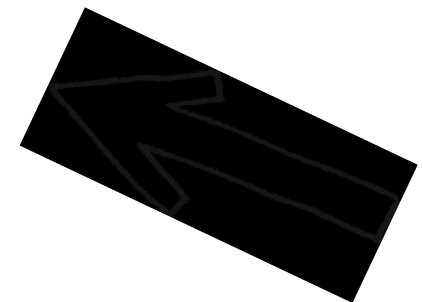
- > Launched In January 2009
- > Aimed at all trading SME's in Yorkshire and the Humber
- > Funded Through Yorkshire Forward
- > Developed to increase innovation collaboration between SME's and the 'Knowledge Base'



# How do you define Innovation?

***“Successful exploitation of a new idea”***

- > Overall an innovation project should add general value to your business and improve bottom line profitability.

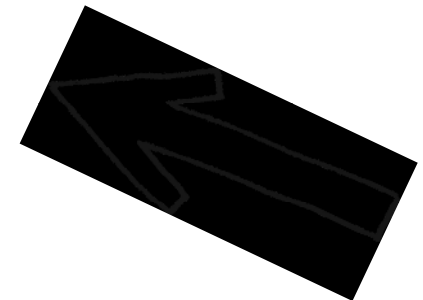


# Who is the 'Knowledge Base'?

- > Universities + Colleges
- > Other research organisations:
  - > CENFRA Ltd
  - > Engineering Design & Wireless Technologies
  - > The Regional Food Group
  - > Food Processing Faraday
  - > Pera
  - > Learning Light
  - > Sheffield Teaching Hospital
  - > Fripp Design
  - > Advanced Digital Institute
  - > AJM
- Practical Control

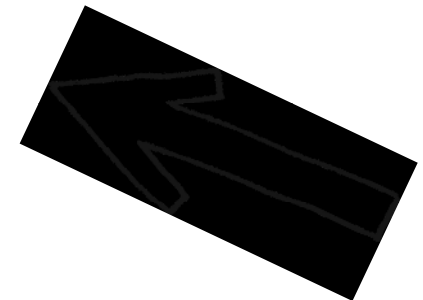
**Solutions  
for Business**

Funded by  
government



# What will the Vouchers do for me?

- > Help you find the right expert in the right Knowledge organisation who has the expertise you need to make your innovation a reality
- > Up to £3,000 towards the overall cost of working with the expert



# What Types of Innovation Project are Eligible?

- > New product / process development
- > New business model development
- > Efficiency audit, process change
- > Supply chain management and logistics
- > New service delivery and customer interface
- > New service development
- > Product and service testing and economic impact assessment
- > Innovation / technology audit
- > Exploiting new web technologies for the region and/or industry (this does not include web design, development or search optimisation).
- > Market research

**Solutions  
for Business**

Funded by  
government



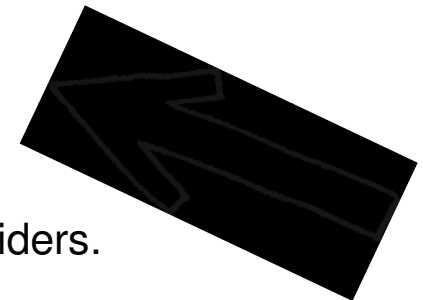
# Is anything not eligible?

## The Voucher cannot be used to pay for:

- > Achieving compliance with statutory regulations or legislation.
- > Intellectual property protection
- > Training courses
- > Software purchases
- > Aid that would promote / subsidise the cost of exports
- > Internships for students of knowledge institutions
- > Design and production of advertising materials
- > Sales and marketing activities this includes website design, development and search optimisations (the only exception would be the exploitation of new web technology for the region and/or industry)
- > Advertising and Promotional activities. e.g. design of posters, leaflets etc.
- > Accreditations
- > Capital items
- > Travel costs
- > 'Live' and existing projects with the knowledge providers.

**Solutions  
for Business**

Funded by  
government

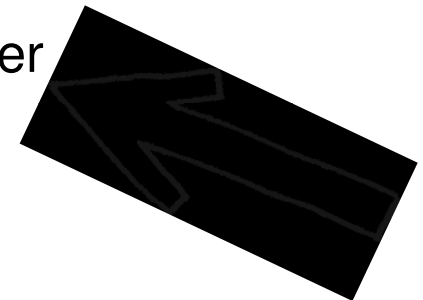


# What's the process?

- > Application form on website
- > 50 vouchers awarded per month on third Friday
- > Ineligible projects informed immediately
- > Eligible project details sent to all 'Knowledge Base'
- > 'Knowledge Base' send proposals back to you
- > Choose your expert and do the project (6 months to do this)
- > You pay the expert Knowledge Provider and then we reimburse you up to £3,000
- > Please note – VAT not covered by Voucher

**Solutions  
for Business**

Funded by  
government



# Where can I get more information?

- > Call our Gateway – 08456 048 048
- > [www.businesslink.gov.uk/yorkshire/innovation](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/yorkshire/innovation)
- > [innovation@businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk](mailto:innovation@businesslinkyorkshire.co.uk)

