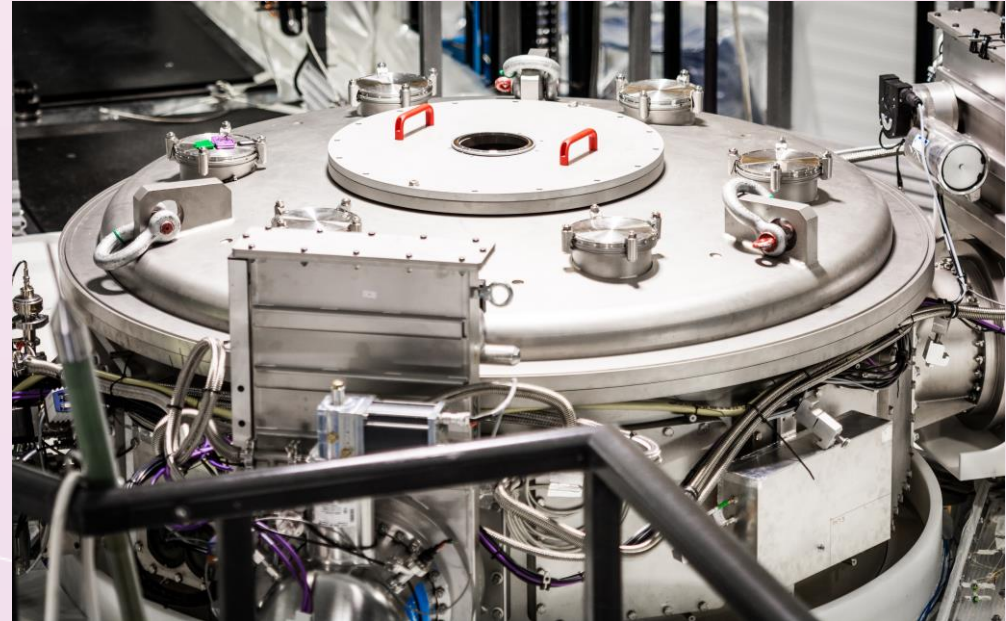


## Oxfordshire Growth Board – 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2021



**Powering Up for the Green Recovery –  
Oxfordshire's role in building a cleaner future**

# Aims

- Understand the industrial landscape of innovation-based companies within the Low Carbon and Environmental Goods and Services (LCEGS) – help others to find companies
- Shine a spot-light on the great science and technology development that is taking place across Oxfordshire, including developing a set of case studies
- Explore whether innovation-based companies will contribute to a Green Recovery – do they expect to grow, and if so, what will support growth and what challenges do they face?

# Things we found along the way



- The policy environment at a local level is supportive of low carbon/environment issues. There is a lot happening.
- Our Universities have strengths in these sectors and are open to working with business.
- Our clusters are critical to the region's success – they continue to grow and develop and there are new ones emerging
- Covid-19 has brought the need for sustainability, low carbon and environmental issues in the NHS to the fore – these need to be incorporated into innovation entering the NHS and its supply chain

# Mapping the landscape



- It is hard to do - there is no single source of data
- Employment levels are difficult to assess
- We found **160** innovation/knowledge based companies working within the LCEGS sector – this compares well to data collected for Oxfordshire Greentech in 2018
- There are likely to be companies we have not found
- We have not attempted to benchmark Oxfordshire against other parts of the country
- <https://advancedoxford.com/green-recovery/business-directory/>

# Key findings



- Nearly **nine in ten** companies (88%) agree or strongly agree Government's focus on the green recovery is an opportunity for them
- The **majority** of pre-revenue companies expect to be revenue generating within one to two years
- Hiring to meet anticipated demand will see head count rise across innovation-based companies in the next three years (range 10%-500%)
- **Three in four** companies expect to be raising more funds to fuel growth over the next three years



# Key findings

- 80% name **investment**, and 50% cite access to **skilled employees** and **grant funding** as key growth enablers.
- 60% name **investment** and 40% say **uncertain markets** and **protecting IP** are key barriers to growth

“What Oxford lacks is larger offices for start-ups in the city centre, and the same goes for lab space too. We love access to the train station and being able to take public transport to work and so it’s going to be tough to find the right space for us to expand near to the city centre.”

# Recommendations



- Investment and co-investment, including from government
- Growth in grant funding
- More investors needed within the region
- Skills – engineering/software; higher level skills; apprenticeships (?)
- Intellectual Property – IPO/OxLEP project
- Market making and business development need attention
- Innovation spaces are needed, including City Centre – offices and labs

# Report/website



Report and case studies

- <https://advancedoxford.com/green-recovery/>

LCEGS innovation/knowledge business directory

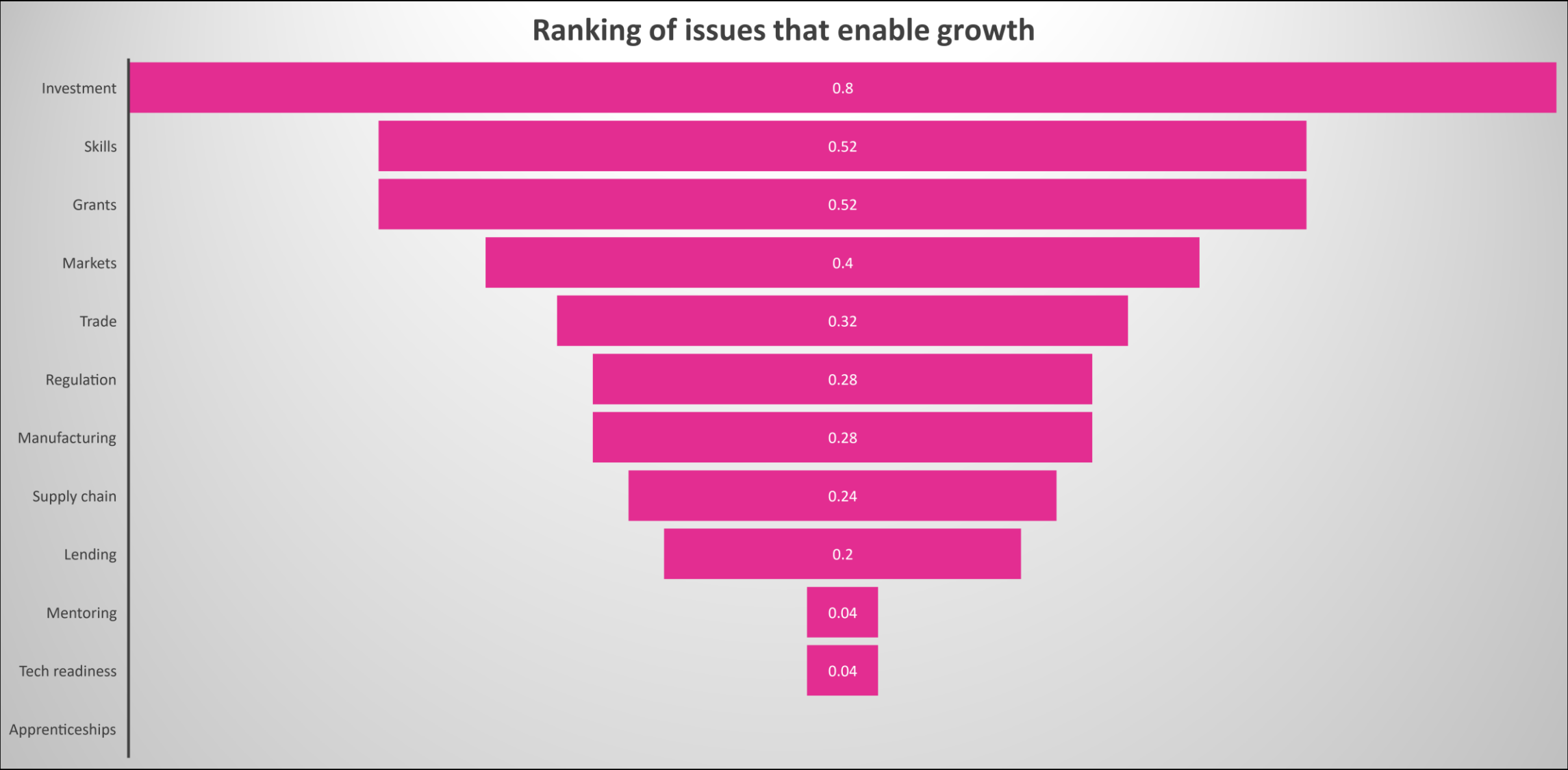
- <https://advancedoxford.com/green-recovery/business-directory/>

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# Annex A- Enablers of growth



# Annex B - Challenges faced by companies



Ranking of the key business challenges faced by respondents

