



PBL Awarded £2.1m for Development of Innovations

PBL is delighted to announce that it has been successful with a bid to the DIUS's Fourth Round of the Public Sector Research Exploitation Fund. The award of £1.57m will extend PBL's highly successful Technology Development Programme (TDP) and will also strengthen PBL's technology transfer interactions with Babraham Bioscience Technologies Limited (BBT), the commercialisation arm of The Babraham Institute. The bid was backed by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, who will contribute £525k to the programme, bringing the total funding to £2.1m. Three other BBSRC-backed bids were also successful.

PBL's Managing Director, Dr Jan Chojecki, said "Our ability to invest - rapidly and efficiently - in very early stage innovations to strengthen IP and to provide critical technical development has been made possible by DIUS PSRE Funding under previous rounds and is now extended. This capacity has transformed the chances of industrial uptake from public research, and is absolutely critical to success in delivering the economic impact objectives of UK research institutions."

Dr Doug Yarrow, BBSRC Director of Corporate Science said "There is significant competition for these grants and we are delighted that our community has performed so well, gaining almost a quarter of the total fund. UK bioscience is among the best in the world and to ensure the maximum benefit for the country from this work we need to support the development of commercial ideas. The four successful bids will each help the bioscience community to develop its best ideas to make an important contribution to the UK economy."

Dr David Hardman, CEO of BBT said "The award of these funds will promote the collaborative development of new bioscience innovations between the BBSRC Institutes across the Eastern Region. It will allow us to build on the facilities and expertise in BBT's Technology Development Laboratory which provides a proof-of-concept facility for innovators from within the institutes and the region."

About Plant Bioscience Ltd:

[PBL](#) develops innovative technologies from public and private sources worldwide - turning ideas into patented, scientifically validated and licensable technologies. PBL invests in building intellectual property protection, and develops technologies through proof-of-concept and prototype stage and licenses onwards to a wide variety of industry sectors. Its interests cover AgBiotech, Food / Nutrition, Microbiology, Biotechnology and related Life Science industries. PBL was formed in 1994, and is now jointly and equally owned by the [John Innes Centre](#), the [Sainsbury Laboratory](#), and the [BBSRC](#).

About BBSRC:

[The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council](#) (BBSRC) is the UK funding agency for research in the life sciences. Sponsored by Government, BBSRC annually invests around £420 million in a wide range of research that makes a significant contribution to the quality of life for UK citizens and supports a number of important industrial stakeholders including the agriculture, food, chemical, healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors. BBSRC is involved in a wide range of activities to promote, encourage and assist knowledge transfer from the research it funds.

About BBT:

[Babraham Bioscience Technologies Ltd](#) is the wholly-owned subsidiary and trading arm of the Babraham Institute. Coalescing scientific, technological and commercial excellence, BBT delivers the Knowledge Transfer remit of the Institute through the wider landscape of the Babraham Research Campus, catalysing opportunities for enterprise across the academic and commercial divide. BBT brings together all the elements to support innovation and enable the successful exploitation of research in the biomedical sector based on technologies emanating from the Babraham Institute and bioventures relocating to the Babraham Research Campus.