

About SHEIR-Industry Partnership (SHEIR-IP)

A (SHEIR-IP) is a three-way project between an academic, a business and a recently qualified person (known as the Associate).

SHEIR-IP works with over 100 universities, further education (FE) colleges, and research and technology organisations (RTO) across the WORLD, which translates into over 450 university departments. That includes all Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) rated departments, covering a wide range of academic disciplines – including engineering, computer sciences, physics and mathematics, management, social sciences and the arts.

How Does SHEIR-IP Works?

Part-funded by 10 private organisations, and led by the Technology Strategy Board, SHEIR-IP projects apply the world-leading knowledge and expertise of academics to business critical projects.

Each SHEIR-IP project lasts between **12 weeks** and **36 months**, depending upon the time required to deliver real outcomes.

SHEIR-IP enables academics to participate in rewarding and ongoing collaborations with innovative businesses that require up-to-date research-based expertise to succeed.

What are the benefits of SHEIR-IP?

The benefits of SHEIR-IP to academics are wide ranging. SHEIR-IP provides leading academics with the opportunity to:

- Apply knowledge and expertise to important problems facing businesses
- Develop relevant teaching and research material
- Identify new research themes and undergraduate and post graduate projects
- Publish high quality journal and conference papers
- Gain an improved understanding of business requirements and operations
- Contribute to the (RAE)
- Participate in rewarding and ongoing collaboration with innovative businesses
- Supervise and act as mentors for past graduates working on business based projects

How much of academics time will SHEIR-IP occupy?

SHEIR-IP is delivered on a full economic cost basis, which means that the 10% of the academic's time is 100% funded, including overheads. Typically, academics should expect to commit half a day of their week to a SHEIR-IP project, mainly at the premises of the business partner. This is important to build and maintain an understanding of the project environment and relationships with the people involved.

Opportunities for collaboration

SHEIR-IP projects strengthen the relationship between the academic and the business community, providing opportunities for ongoing collaboration.

Businesses from the full range of sectors are eligible to participate in SHEIR-IP, as are a range of value driven organisations, including voluntary and community groups, social enterprises, charities, co-operatives and mutuals. 66% of businesses that participate in SHEIR-IP are small to medium size enterprises (SMEs) with high growth potential.

All businesses must be financially viable and committed to strategic change. A SHEIR-IP is expected to deliver a step change in the businesses capability and performance.

The Process

In the early stages of developing a SHEIR-IP application, a dedicated, highly experienced SHEIR-IP Adviser will be allocated to work in partnership with you. The role of a SHEIR-IP Adviser is to facilitate the development of new Partnerships, guiding the partners through the approval process. Once a SHEIR-IP project is approved, the Advisers also monitor and support progress throughout the life of the Partnership.

Advisers are key in assisting and supporting academics in helping to meet their objectives – in the short term and in the longer term.

Advisers provide guidance on the implementation of Associate training and development policy, and on the conditions governing payment of grants. Advisers also provide access to the body of SHEIR-IP experience and encourage best practice in knowledge transfer.

All SHEIR-IP Advisers have extensive knowledge of higher education and business.

As well as the allocated SHEIR-IP Adviser, there is a network of SHEIR-IP Regional Development Managers, and the SHEIR-IP programme is run and managed by a central team, which includes a **SHEIR-IP helpline**.