Cisco Digital Acceleration Programme 3.0

Cisco is the worldwide leader in IT, networking and cybersecurity solutions. Over the past decade, we have committed more than $1.6bn towards digital innovation initiatives across the country, primarily through the Country Digital Acceleration (CDA) programme. We are launching the latest iteration of CDA, to accelerate digitisation in the UK by investing in innovation in key areas of the economy and public services.

Education

Driving innovation in research

UCL's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Centre became a Cisco Global Centre of Excellence in 2021 and has developed into a world-leading hub for driving research and innovation in the AI space.



Cisco has a strategic partnership with Heriot-Watt University across innovation and research, which includes supporting the "Fishing For Data" project which uses Cisco wireless, edge AI and underwater sensor technology to capture real time fishing data (catch type, frequency and water temperature).



Driving innovation in producing new tech

The UK Government is keen to monitor air quality and room temperatures in schools as part of its Net Zero schools programme. Cisco is helping to deploy 5 early proof of concept (PoC) with wireless and sensor technology to capture by room/space to help schools become carbon neutral.

cisco Meraki

Transport

Rail

Through CDA investment Cisco is co-funding the TSIP (Train and Station Innovation For Performance) programme with Network rail to build a data driven approach to passenger, staff, and station safety, as well as operational improvements.

Network Rail

Network Rail are trialling this technology at 6 stations including: Euston, Manchester, Piccadilly, and Glasgow Central, with plans to extend to the whole station at Leeds Central.

After 3 years, E-Flex now operates in trial sites stretching from Scotland to the South coast.

Roads

Through CDA, Cisco has been working with the Borough of Greenwich, alongside other partners, on the E-Flex project to pioneer the use of Vehicle To Grid (VTG) technology. This is a sustainable concept, that allows energy from a fleet of electric vehicles to be put back on the Grid at peak consumption times, whilst restoring the charge later at off-peak times.

Regional

Public Services

One of our larger regional public service projects is with Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). We are working to develop a network capability which will enable the delivery of high quality digital citizen services.

Networking Academy

The Cisco Network Academy will equip the next generation of leaders with vital skills, ranging from programming, cyber, and networking for a "better connected and secure Manchester". We will also be working with a number of entrepreneurship programmes in the GMCA region.

As part of this project Cisco will deliver a high-quality package of social value to the region, addressing skills shortages and encouraging skills development at all levels (Schools > Universities > Citizens > Entrepreneurs).

Health

Hospitals of the future

Cisco is working on delivering a series of regional Living Labs, to consider what the future of health service delivery, social care, and hospital-built infrastructure should look like.



NHS Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

To achieve this, we will be partnering with a number of NHS Trusts and are already working with Nottingham University Hospital NHS Trust on their National Rehabilitation Centre. The Centre is set to open in 2024 and will have 100 beds, providing patients in need of long-term rehabilitation after severe trauma with vital services.



Cisco aims to deliver a small-scale pilot in an existing brain injury unit called Linden Lodge in Nottingham. The pilot will focus on demonstrating the benefit of implementing certain technologies.

We are proud of the work Cisco does to digitally accelerate public services in the UK. If you would like more information about the impact we are having across education, transport, health and elsewhere, please contact tkneen@cisco.com and we would be happy to discuss the CDA programme with you in more detail.