So, you're thinking of a career in… INNOVATION

What is the Innovation sector all about?

Innovation in business or the workplace is about generating new ideas for products or services – either around what is produced and made, or the way in which the customer accesses or consumes the product or service.

Creative thinking lies at the heart of innovation and helps businesses and organisations to be competitive and successful. Innovation is not just about thinking of new ideas or concepts it is also about applying them and taking them to the market place.

Will there be any opportunities and where are they?

A culture of innovation drives the development of new products and processes and improves business effectiveness and efficiency. It is not always about new and radical inventions; new processes and ways of working within an individual business can be seen as innovative.

The increasingly rapid pace of technological change and digitalisation of products and processes has raised the demand for innovation skills and competencies. It is always a challenge for businesses to make sure that their staff can keep pace with the speed of change.

For the Liverpool City Region, innovation is in our DNA and our record continues with world leading facilities and businesses that provide exciting opportunities such as the Materials Innovation Factory; Sensor City; Sci-Tech Daresbury (in partnership with IBM research) The Knowledge Quarter; Jaguar Land Rover; Astra Zeneca; Alstom; Pilkington and Unilever to name but a few.

How to get into the sector?

Important skills to have:	Useful subjects to study:
Literacy and numeracy	Maths
Networking	English
Resilience	ICT/Digital
Creative, analytical and critical thinking	Coding
Research	Business studies
Teamwork	Art and Design
Entrepreneurial	STEM
ICT/Digital	Technology

What types of jobs are available?

Design and development engineers: Design and development engineers conceive engineering designs from product ideas or requirements in mechanical, electrical and electronic engineering.

Product, clothing and related designers: Product, clothing and related designers plan, direct and undertake the creation of designs for new industrial and commercial products, clothing and related fashion accessories, costumes and wigs, and for building interiors and stage sets.

Biological scientists and biochemists: Biological scientists and biochemists examine and investigate the morphology, structure, chemistry and physical characteristics of living organisms, including their inter-relationships, environments and diseases.

What types of jobs are available… continued

IT business analysts, architects and systems designers: Workers in this group provide advice on the effective utilisation of IT and design IT systems in order to meet the business objectives or to enhance the business effectiveness of the organisation.

Chemical scientists: Chemical scientists analyse and research physical aspects of chemical structure and change within substances and develop chemical techniques used in the manufacture or modification of natural substances and processed products.

Management consultants and business analysts: Job holders in this group advise industrial, commercial and other establishments on a variety of management and business-related matters to assist in the formulation of financial and business policies in order to maximise growth or improve business performance.

Business and related associate professionals: Job holders in this group advise on the effectiveness and efficiencies of an organisation's procedures, systems and methods of production and play a key role in identifying opportunities for innovation.

Marketing associate professionals: Marketing associate professionals assist in the development and implementation of projects which aim to elicit the preferences and requirements of consumers, businesses and other specified target groups so that suppliers may meet these needs.

Programmers and software development professionals: Programmers and software development professionals design, develop, test, implement and maintain software systems in order to meet the specifications and business objectives of the information system; they also design and develop specialist software e.g. for computer games.

Research and development managers: Managers in this group plan, organise, co-ordinate and manage resources to undertake the systematic investigation necessary for the development of new, or to enhance the performance of existing, products and services. Innovation is a key aspect of this role.

Find out more…

Knowledge Quarter and the Materials and Innovation Factory
www.kqliverpool.co.uk/spaces/materials-innovation-factory

Sensor City
www.sensorcity.co.uk

UK Research and Innovation
www.ukri.org