# Plymouth Science Park awarded £500k for new digital engineering hub

Plymouth Science Park has been awarded around £500,000 to fund a new digital engineering test facility.

The planned Digital Reverse Engineering And Metallurgy (DREAM) project at the 25-acre campus – home to science and technology businesses involved in digital, creative, marine, earth and life sciences – is being designed to allow firms a new base to try out new prototypes and products.



Bosses at the Devon business and research hub said the centre was being devised in response to demand for local digital engineering test beds to underpin new production methods empowered by digital technologies. They added that the facility could help create jobs in the region, develop skill sets, improve productivity within the manufacturing sector, and strengthen supply chain resilience.

Ian McFadzen, chief executive at Plymouth Science Park, said: “We are thrilled to have secured this substantial funding, a testament to the Park’s commitment to innovation. DREAM will support modern production methods and pioneering technologies, helping to expand our offer to additive manufacturing and engineering companies in the South West and beyond.”

The funding has been allocated by the Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and has been drawn from an £8m pot for digital investment.

Karl Tucker, chair of the Heart of the South West LEP, said:

“We are proud to support Plymouth Science Park’s visionary DREAM project. The test facility aligns with our mission to drive regional innovation, and is a testament to our region’s potential in shaping the future of engineering.”

Originally named Tamar Science Park, Plymouth Science Park on Davy Road in Derriford, was incorporated in 1996 as a joint venture between the University of Plymouth and Plymouth City Council. More than £30m of investment has funded five separate phases of development since then.