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Firm's expansion hit

by skills shortage

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"But this report shows that our businesses need more help and

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tailored support to help them get their product to market.

"I am urging everyone with a stake in the public sector to look at what they are doing and to redouble their efforts on this."

The data used was from the period of 2010 to 2012 and does not recognise innovations in the past three years

Established in 2013, Innovus was created by the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) to try and address the shortfall in innovation in Cumbria.

Simon Walker, stakeholder manager at Innovus and the NNL responded to the findings and said: "The figures that are quoted in the table accompanying the report are what prompted The University of Manchester and National Nuclear Laboratory to pursue the Innovus idea

"As a result, nearly £2m of additional investment has been made into Cumbrian innovation since August 2013, with 36 grants awarded.

"The target for Innovus is to help to develop the culture of investment in innovation, research and development in Cumbria, raising the level from less than 1% of turnover to the European average which is 3%.

"The results won't be seen overnight as technology development is often a lengthy process, but already the results are starting to be seen "

What do you think about Cumbria's low ranking? Tell us in the comment box below or email joshua.hammond@cngroup.co.uk

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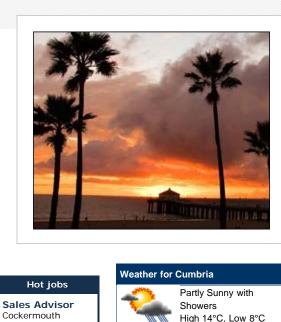
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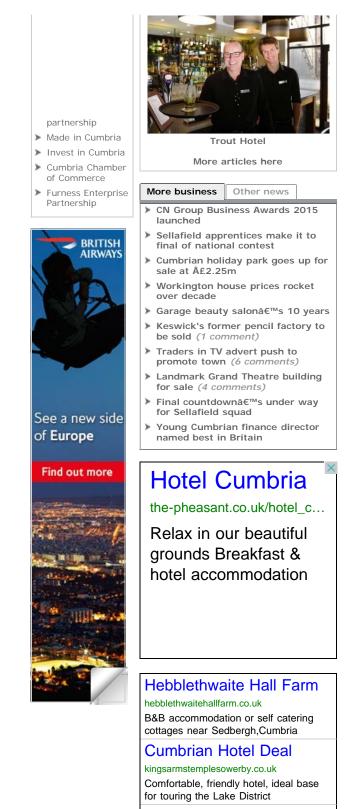
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