

Station Innovation Zone

CATAPULT
Connected Places

Enabling the safe, scalable deployment of proven innovation across transport systems

Across transport systems, there is growing pressure to improve performance, reliability, passenger experience and value for money. Delivering meaningful change takes time and investment, and introducing new solutions can carry risk.

An Innovation Zone helps you navigate that journey

Our team works with you to understand your challenges, priorities and goals, then identifies and develops innovative solutions that can address them. From defining the challenge and engaging the market to testing and validating solutions in real-world environments, we provide a structured route from challenge to deployment – helping you make informed decisions and reduce the risk of adoption.

Moving innovation from trial to deployment

An Innovation Zone bridges the gap between testing and wider adoption, helping promising innovations move beyond successful trials and into operational use. By bringing together industry, operators, government and innovators in real-world environments, the programme enables solutions to be tested, refined and validated, generating the evidence needed to support adoption and scale.

“As one of the UK’s largest infrastructure clients, Network Rail recognises the value of supporting home-grown innovators with fresh thinking. We work closely with SMEs to understand how their innovations can improve passenger confidence and safety.

Brian Wortman
Senior Programme Manager
Network Rail

An Innovation Zone in action with Network Rail

An Innovation Zone has been in place at Bristol Temple Meads station since 2022, delivered in partnership with Network Rail and funded by Innovate UK. So far, participants in the programme have...

createc

Createc’s Situate uses anonymous crowd monitoring to give station staff a precise view of activity while protecting passenger privacy. Following its trial at Bristol Temple Meads, Situate was **selected for a year-long trial at London Waterloo** and has since **secured multiple three-year deployment contracts** in 2026.

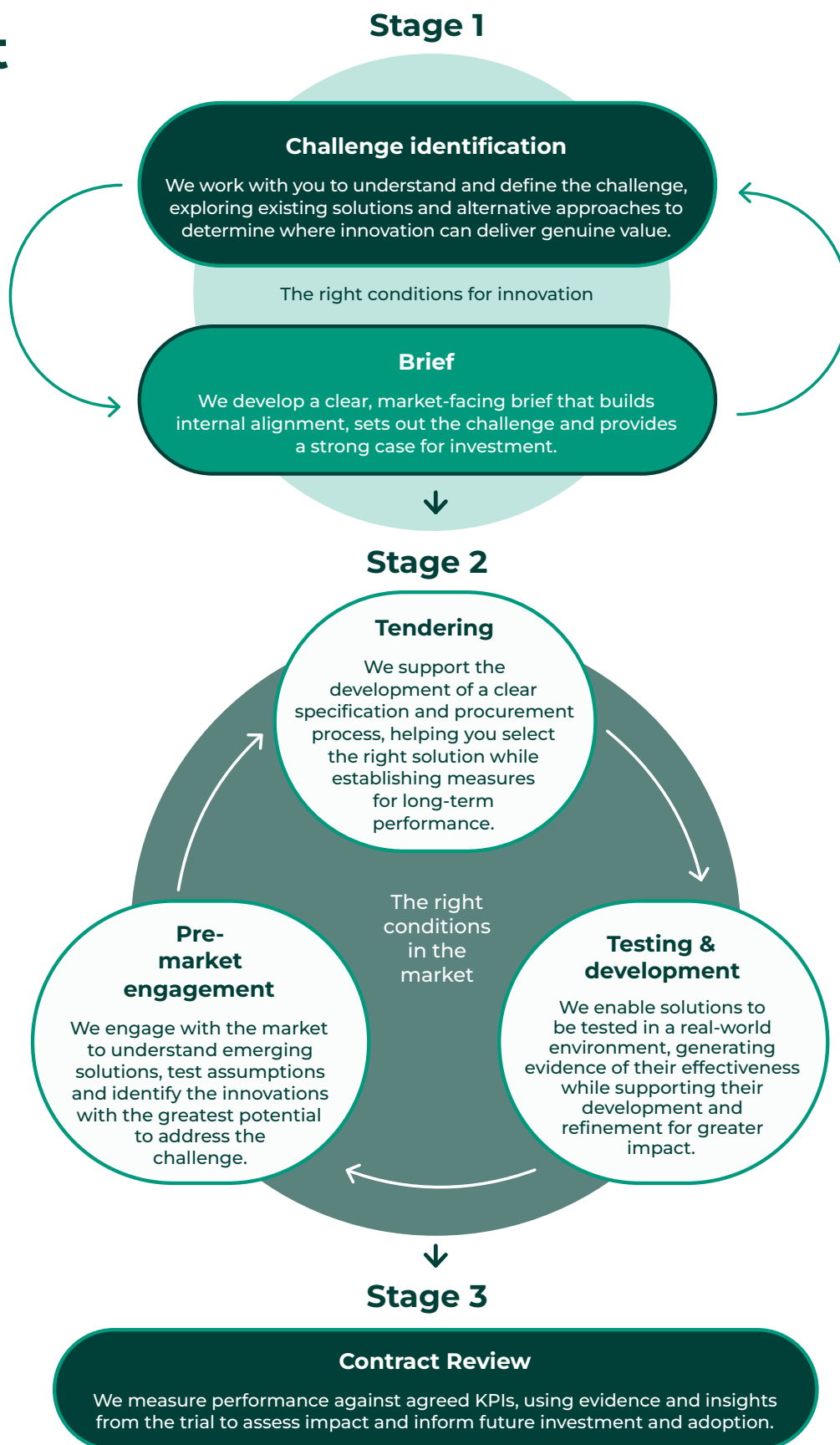
JourneyAlerts

Journey Alerts provides personalised, app-free travel support via WhatsApp and SMS nationwide. Its trial engaged **800+ users, with over 80% returning**, and the technology is now used by transport operators and local authorities, including LNER and Bedford Borough Council.

AMPETRONIC

Ampetronic is making station announcements clearer and more accessible with Auracast™, streaming them directly to passengers’ personal devices with no app required. **The technology delivered up to 62% clearer announcements in challenging areas of Bristol Temple Meads.**

How it works



Have a transport challenge? Tell us about it and let's explore how an Innovation Zone could help

info.cp.catapult.org.uk/get-in-touch