



The Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre is one of eight Innovation Centres set up by the Scottish Government to boost growth in key economic sectors. Established in 2014, it operates from the Stirling University Innovation Park.

Aquaculture is hugely important to the Scottish economy. It contributes up to £1.4 billion a year in turnover, and Scottish salmon is the UK's largest single food export.

The role of the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (or SAIC) is to fuel further growth in the industry. We're doing so by harnessing the research strength in Scotland's universities to work on key issues and opportunities for the industry.

We're also attracting new research talent into Scotland's aquaculture sector, through funding postgraduates, connecting businesses with researchers, and attracting specialists in fields from genetics to physics to apply their expertise to commercially-relevant aquaculture projects.

SAIC's Chief Executive, Heather Jones:



“Stirling is an ideal base for the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre. We're close to Edinburgh and Glasgow, and within easy driving distance of many of the aquaculture businesses we work with – whether they're in Oban, Fort William, Inverness or in the Central Belt.

Our consortium members like the location for meetings and workshops: it's more convenient for businesses' HQs and operational bases than Edinburgh or Glasgow would be. And it's centrally positioned for academics travelling from Aberdeen, St Andrews, Oban, Glasgow and Inverness.

There are other reasons to be based in Stirling too. The local authority is efficient and responsive, the people friendly, and the staff at Stirling University Innovation Park very supportive.

It's also a great place to live if you like walking, climbing, mountain-biking or looking at spectacular Scottish landscapes. We've already managed to persuade three staff members to relocate here from Canada, England and Edinburgh!”