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**BBC News** 

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# Will science 'revive the economy'?

Chancellor George Osborne has announced the award of investment funds totalling £21.5m to some of Britain's top universities to develop commercial uses for the "super-material" graphene.

Of course any government would love Britain's scientists to help us produce world leading hi-tech industries along the lines of the Silicon Valley in the United States, but is this a government which genuinely supports science?

Today guest editor Sir Paul Nurse asked Mr Osborne how central science was to the government's plans for reviving the economy.

"Letting intellectual enquiry take us where it does, is very important and government need to support that," Mr Osborne explained.

This is an extended version of the broadcast interview.

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1 of 1 27/12/2012 13:34