



Innovate
UK

Secure Software for Resilient Growth Applicant Briefing

Date: 25th March 2026

The webinar will start at 11:00

- Welcome, we are currently waiting for more people to join
- This briefing will be recorded. A copy of the slides and the recording link will be made available on IFS
- Please enter any questions that you may have into the Q&A Box
- For more information on the competition process, please [view our YouTube channel](#)



Welcome and Introductions

11:00 – **Welcome - Richard Foggie**, Digital Economy & IoT, Innovate UK Business Connect

11:05 - **Secure Software for Resilient Growth - Simon Hart**, Head of Supply Chain & Systems Resilience, Innovate UK

11:20 - **Overview of the Codes of Practice - Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, (DSIT)**

11:30 - **Software Security and the SSCofP - National Cyber Security Centre, (NCSC)**

11:40 - **Applicant briefing - James Rayner**, Competition Manager, Innovate UK

12:10 - **Q&A**

12:30 - **Close.**



NHS England

About us Our work Commissioning Get involved

Date published: 20 March, 2026
Date last updated: 20 March, 2026

[Emergency Preparedness, Resilience and Response](#)

Stryker Medical – cyber-attack and associated disruption to supply of medical equipment and consumables

Summary

Aqua Security's Trivy binaries and GitHub actions have been compromised and could harvest secrets

DARKTRACE Platform Solutions Why Darktrace Partner

What is Salt Typhoon?

Salt Typhoon represents one of the most persistent and sophisticated cyber threats targeting global critical infrastructure today. Believed to be linked to state-sponsored actors from the People's Republic of China (PRC), this advanced persistent threat (APT) group has executed a series of high-impact campaigns against telecommunications providers, energy networks, and government systems – most notably across the United States.

Active since at least 2019, the group – also tracked as Earth Estries, GhostEmperor, and UNC2286 – has demonstrated advanced capabilities in exploiting edge devices, maintaining deep persistence, and exfiltrating sensitive data across more than 80 countries. While much of the public reporting has focused on U.S. targets, Salt Typhoon's operations have extended into Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) where it has targeted telecoms, government entities, and technology firms. Its use of custom malware and exploitation of high-impact vulnerabilities (e.g., Ivanti, Fortinet, Cisco) underscores the strategic nature of its campaigns, which blend intelligence collection with geopolitical influence [1].

Platform Solutions Resources Open Source Enterprise Pricing

BerriAI / litellm

[Security]: CRITICAL: Malicious litellm_init.pth in litellm 1.82.8 credential stealer #24512

[LITELLM TEAM] - For updates from the team, please see: #24518

[Security]: CRITICAL: Malicious `litellm_init.pth` in litellm 1.82.8 PyPI package — credential stealer

Summary

The `litellm==1.82.8` wheel package on PyPI contains a malicious `.pth` file (`litellm_init.pth`, 34,628 bytes) that automatically executes a credential-stealing script every time the Python interpreter starts — no import `litellm` required.

This is a supply chain compromise. The malicious file is listed in the package's own `__credits__`:

```
litellm_init.pth,sha256:cefa7a019911808c2a1a3d43d0149b766181015e,34628
```

Krebs on Security
In-depth security news and investigation

HOME ABOUT THE AUTHOR ADVERTISING/SPEAKING

'CanisterWorm' Springs Wiper Attack Targeting Iran

March 23, 2026 3 Comment

A financially motivated data theft and extortion group is attempting to inject itself into the Iran war, unleashing a worm that spreads through poorly secured cloud services and wipes data on infected systems that use Iran's time zone or have Farsi set as the default language.

Experts say the wiper campaign against Iran materialized this past weekend and came from a relatively new cybercrime group known as **TeamPCP**. In December 2025, the group began compromising corporate cloud environments using a self-propagating worm that went after exposed Docker APIs, Kubernetes clusters, Redis servers, and the React2Shell vulnerability. TeamPCP then attempted to move laterally through victim networks, siphoning authentication credentials and extorting victims over Telegram.

```
f os.path.exists("/etc/timezone"):
    with open("/etc/timezone", "r") as f:
        tz = f.read().strip()
else:
    TPV:
```

ars TECHNICA AI BIZ & IT CARS CULTURE GAMING HEALTH POLICY SCIENCE SECURITY SPACE TECH

BWARE OF BLANK LINES AND WHITE SPACES

Supply-chain attack using invisible code hits GitHub and other repositories

Unicode that's invisible to the human eye was largely abandoned — until attackers took notice.

Researchers say they've discovered a supply-chain attack flooding repositories with malicious packages that contain invisible code, a technique that's flummoxing traditional defenses designed to detect such threats.

The researchers, from firm Aikido Security, said Friday that they found 151 malicious packages that were uploaded to GitHub from March 3 to March 9. Such supply-chain attacks have been common for nearly a decade. They usually work by uploading malicious packages with code and names that closely resemble those of widely used code libraries, with the objective of tricking developers into mistakenly incorporating the former into their software. In some cases, these malicious packages are downloaded thousands of times.

Reuters World Business Markets Sustainability Legal Com

Jaguar Land Rover hack cost UK economy an estimated \$2.5 billion, report says

By James Pearson
October 22, 2025 10:11 AM GMT+1 · Updated October 22, 2025

Simon Hart
Head of Supply Chain and Systems Resilience

BSKY: @SimonBIM
LinkedIn: /srhart

UKRI Innovate UK

Dr Richard Horne, Chief Executive of the NCSC, said:

Cyber security is now a matter of business survival and national resilience.

UNIT 42 About Unit 42 Services Unit 42 Threat Research Partners Resources

Threat Research Center > High Profile Threats > Malware

"Shai-Hulud" Worm Compromises npm Ecosystem in Supply Chain Attack (Updated November 26)

8 min read

Secure Software for Resilient Growth



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service
Sign In

BETA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Back to all competitions](#)

Funding competition

Secure Software for Resilient Growth

UK registered organisations can apply for a share of up to £5 million for collaborative projects that enable adoption of the Government's Software Security Code of Practice to drive growth of secure and resilient software supply chains.

Competition opens: Monday 16 March 2026
Competition closes: Wednesday 29 April 2026 11:00am

[Start new application](#)

Or [sign in](#) to continue an existing application.

Summary **Eligibility** Scope Dates How to apply Supporting information

Description Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), will invest up to £5 million for Collaborative Research & Development projects. This is subject to a sufficient number of high-quality applications being received.



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology



National Cyber
Security Centre

Software Security

25th March 2026



UK Gov Software Security Overview

- Background: Secure by Design; Why software, the market failure
- What the Software Security Code of Practice is
- NCSC Accompanying Material & Assurance
- International Cohesion
- Next Steps

HOW WE'RE SECURING THE ECONOMY



Securing organisations



Securing technologies

Inform

Creating guidance on best practice

Incentivise

Encouraging adoption of best practice

Instruct

Bringing about legislation only where we must

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| - Cyber Security and Resilience Bill | - Product Security and Telecommunications Act |
| - Cyber Essentials | implementation |
| - Codes of practice (<i>Governance, Software, etc</i>) | - Post Quantum Cryptography |
| - CHERI memory safety | - International Standards |

Why Software?

59% of organisations globally have experienced an attack or exploit on their software supply chain

(Ponemon Institute, 2024)

Supply: Inconsistent practices and lacking incentive to prioritise security and resilience over cost and innovation.

(Gov Response on CfV on Software Resilience, 2023)

No market baseline for software security and resilience

Demand: Low awareness and understanding of software security risks and requirements in business customers

Only 21% of businesses considered cyber security when purchasing software. Only 14% review risks posed by immediate suppliers.

(Cyber Breaches Survey, 2025)

2024 Call for Views on the Draft Code

Overall support for
the Software Security
Code of Practice

Support for Controls &
Implementation
Guidance to help
organisations use the
Code

Alignment with
existing standards,
regulation and
guidance

Strong interest in
adding an assurance
mechanism to the
Code

SOFTWARE SECURITY CODE OF PRACTICE

- 4 themes divided across 14 principles which set minimum actions for software vendors
- They have been distilled to the most impactful and achievable actions for organisations of any size/ maturity

Theme 1: Secure design
and development

Theme 2: Build
environment
security

Theme 3: Secure
deployment and
maintenance

Theme 4:
Communication
with customers

SECURE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

- 1.1 Follow an established secure development framework.
- 1.2 understand the composition of the software and assess risks linked to the ingestion and maintenance of third-party components throughout the development lifecycle.
- 1.3 Have a clear process for testing software and software updates before distribution.
- 1.4 Follow secure by design and secure by default principles throughout the development lifecycle of the software.

BUILD ENVIRONMENT SECURITY

2.1 Protect the build environment against unauthorised access.

2.2 Control and log changes to the build environment.

SECURE DEPLOYMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- 3.1 Distribute software securely to customers.
- 3.2 Implement and publish an effective vulnerability disclosure process.
- 3.3 Have processes and documentation in place for proactively detecting, prioritizing and managing vulnerabilities in software components.
- 3.4 Report vulnerabilities to relevant parties where appropriate.
- 3.5 Provide timely security updates, patches and notifications to customers.

COMMUNICATION WITH CUSTOMERS

- 4.1 Provide information to the customer specifying the level of support and maintenance provided for the software being sold.
- 4.2 Provides at least 1 year's notice to customers of when the software will no longer be supported or maintained by the vendor.
- 4.3 Make information available to customers about notable incidents that may cause significant impact to customer organisations.



Importance of software security for economic growth.

- Software is **ubiquitous** and many cyber security incidents involve the exploitation of a **vulnerability or misconfiguration** in software.
- A way to demand and demonstrate **cyber resilience of UK software products as a market differentiator** has not existed before.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

- Helps software vendors develop solutions to demonstrate compliance with the Code of Practice
- Covers each principle of the Code in detail, with links to additional sources of material
- Draws from respected industry standards and frameworks:
 - NIST Secure Software Development Framework
 - Microsoft Security Development Lifecycle
 - OWASP Software Development Lifecycle
 - Supply-chain Levels for Software Artifacts (SLSA)



Assurance Principles and Claims

- Each Principle is broken down into a series of claims. The claims are all binary and measurable.
- Organisations will then be able to choose what they provide as evidence of that claim, depending on what they have available to them.

1.4. Follow "secure by design" and "secure by default" principles throughout the development lifecycle of the software.

- Techniques to understand how the software might be exploited (threat modelling) have been used in the design of the software.
- MFA for privileged users of the software is enforced.
- Default (and persistent) passwords are not used.
- Data input into software is validated.
- Credentials and sensitive data are securely stored.

2.2: Changes to the build environment are controlled and logged.

- Access and changes to the build environment are logged.
- Only authorised personnel can make changes to the build environment.
- Logs are auditable and retained for an agreed period.
- The confidentiality and integrity of logs is protected.

3.1: Software is distributed securely to customers.

- The integrity of software (including updates) can be verified in the customer environment.
- Software (including updates) is distributed over trusted channels.



International Cohesion

- The Code was designed to ensure no contradictions with the EU CRA and the US SSDF
- Co-sealed by the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security
- Continuing to monitor work in international standards bodies, regulation and guidance
- Seeking opportunities for further international recognition

CURRENT AMBITIONS

- Embedding the Code across UK supply chains (e.g. critical sectors and government)
- Developing an assurance mechanism based on software security certification
- Engaging organisations to understand their experience implementing the Software Security Code of Practice (e.g. Software Security Ambassador Scheme; NHS)

Applicant briefing

- Key Dates
- Competition Summary & Scope
- Eligibility Criteria
- Innovation Funding Service (IFS)
- Funding Rules
- Assessment
- Use of AI
- Additional Support
- Q&A



Key Dates

Timeline	Date
Competition Opens	16 March 2026
Submission Deadline	29 April 2026 at 11am
Applicants informed	3 June by 5pm
Project start and end dates	Start by 1 August 2026 End by 31 January 2028

Competition Summary & Scope



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Summary

Innovate UK will invest up to £5 million for Collaborative Research & Development projects that enable adoption of the Government's Software Security Code of Practice to drive growth of secure and resilient software supply chains.

Software underpins all the digital technologies we rely on, driving productivity and growth across industry. But many sectors are undergoing digital transformation without embedding adequate cyber security measures. This is leaving them vulnerable to cyber-crime that drains £14.7 billion from the economy each year.

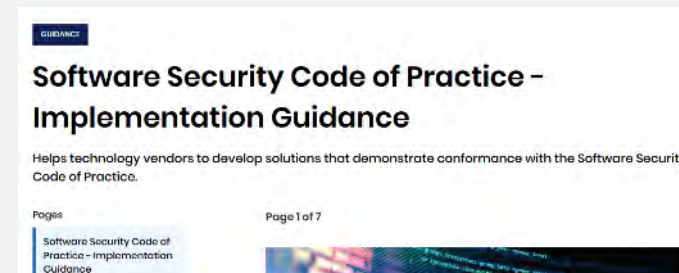
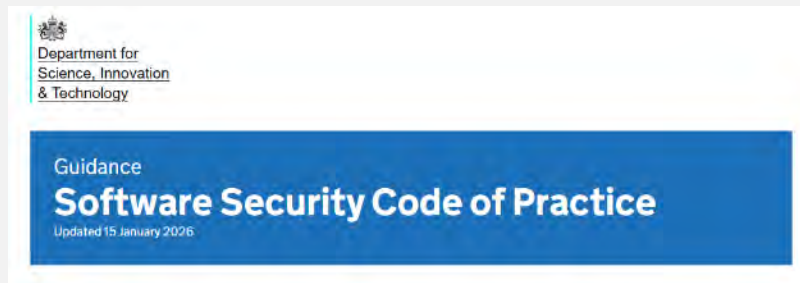
The [Software Security Code of Practice](#) is one of a series of cyber security codes of practice developed by the UK government to improve overall UK cyber-resilience.

Scope

The aim of this competition is to drive the growth of secure and resilient software supply chains in the UK, through the adoption of the Software Security Code of Practice (SSCoP).

The Codes of Practice, and the UK government's Cyber Essentials scheme, set out good practices to reduce cyber security risks which are not being sufficiently addressed by industry.

Before applying, you are strongly advised to read the Software Security Code of Practice and the Implementation Guidance in full.



Scope - your project must:

- Increase adoption, awareness and implementation of the SSCoP
- drive the commercial growth of cyber resilient technology supply chains in the UK
- increase the baseline level of cyber resilience of UK software supply chains.
- support at least 2 or more of the 4 [SSCoP Themes](#)



SSCoP Themes:

1. **Secure design and development**
2. **Build environment security**
3. **Secure deployment and maintenance**
4. **Communication with customers**

Scope - Specifics

Your project can focus on one or more of the following:

- Tools, techniques and systems to accelerate or incentivise adoption, implementation and assurance of the SSCoP
- engagement, training and communicating to drive adoption of SSCoP across both the supply chain and customers
- enabling, informing and upskilling procurement professionals and specifiers to drive adoption through contracts and negotiations
- tools, data, metrics and testing that use the SSCoP to improve understanding of the cyber resilience of complex software systems
- tools, data, measurements and techniques that accelerate or automate SSCoP compliance or assurance
- enabling integration or translation of the SSCoP into sectors and supply chains such as energy infrastructure, defence, advanced connectivity, transport
- development of automated analysis tools and techniques for SSCoP compliance of AI generated code
- developing measurable and reproducible uses of AI to aid compliance to the SSCoP
- mapping of SSCoP to pre-existing frameworks or standards such as ISO27001, Cyber Assessment Framework, NIS2, ETSI TS104223, SLSA, etc
- development of sector-specific guidance and tools, especially for non-cyber experts, to help in supplier management
- enabling or demonstrating SSCoP adherence and adoption in cloud CI/CD pipelines
- enabling market differentiation for SSCoP compliant vendors

(This list is not exhaustive.)

Scope - Projects we will not fund

We cannot fund projects that:

- are not in scope for this competition
- are from a single applicant
- do not increase adoption, awareness and implementation of the SSCoP
- do not drive the commercial growth of cyber resilient technology supply chains in the UK
- do not increase the baseline level of cyber resilience of UK software supply chains
- do not support at least 2 or more of the 4 [SSCoP Themes](#)
- are dependent on export performance: giving a subsidy to an organisation on the condition that it exports a certain quantity of its products to another country
- are dependent on domestic inputs usage: giving a subsidy to an organisation on the condition that it uses a set percentage of UK components in their product

Eligibility criteria



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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Your project must:

- have total grant funding request of between £250,000 and £750,000
- be led by a UK registered business
- have at least one other project partner
- contain at least one UK registered micro, small or medium sized enterprise (SME) claiming grant funding on this application
- carry out all of its project work in the UK
- intend to commercially exploit the results in the UK
- start by 1 August 2026
- end by 31 January 2028
- last between 12 and 18 months

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

To lead a collaborative project your organisation must be a UK registered business of any size. The consortium must contain at least one UK registered micro, small or medium sized enterprise (SME) claiming grant funding on this application.

More information on the different types of organisation can be found in our [Funding rules](#).

Academic institutions cannot lead or work alone.

More information on the different types of organisation can be found in our [Funding rules](#).

Eligibility Criteria – Collaboration

For this competition your project must be collaborative.

In all collaborative projects there must be:

- at least two grant claiming partners
- evidence of an effective collaboration

(This means one partner must not account for more than 70% of the eligible costs and you must include rationale for the collaboration and describe the structure in the application.)

For example:

If the total project costs are **£1,000,000** the maximum costs that can be accounted for by any partner is **£700,000**

Eligibility Criteria – Project Team

Project team

To collaborate with the lead, your organisation must be one of the following UK registered:

- business of any size
- academic institution
- charity
- not for profit
- public sector organisation
- research and technology organisation (RTO)

Eligibility Criteria – Partners/Subcontractors

Non-funded partners

Your project can include partners that do not receive any of this competition's funding, for example, non-UK businesses. Their costs will count towards the total project costs.

Subcontractors

Subcontractors **are** allowed in this competition.

Subcontractors can be from anywhere in the UK and you must select them through your usual procurement process. You can use subcontractors from overseas but must make the case in your application as to why you cannot use suppliers from the UK.

You must provide a detailed rationale, evidence of the potential UK contractors you approached and the reasons why they were unable to work with you. We will not accept a cheaper cost as a sufficient reason to use an overseas subcontractor.

All subcontractor costs must be justified and appropriate to the total project costs.

Eligibility Criteria – Number of applications

Number of applications

A business can only lead on one application but can be included as a collaborator in a further two applications.

Previously submitted applications

This competition **does** allow you to submit a previously submitted application.

Previously submitted application	Not a Previously submitted application
<p>A previously submitted application is an application Innovate UK judges as <u>not</u> materially different from one you have submitted before (but it can be updated based on the assessors' feedback).</p> <p>If you have previously submitted an application that reached our assessment stage, you can re-apply once more with the same proposal.</p>	<p>A brand-new application, project or idea that you have not previously submitted into an Innovate UK competition.</p> <p>or</p> <p>A previously submitted or ineligible application which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has been updated based on assessor feedback• <u>and</u> is materially different from the application submitted before• <u>and</u> fits with the scope of this competition



Innovation Funding Service (IFS)

How to apply

The lead applicant must create an account:

UK registered businesses

Use Companies House lookup using your company number. This facilitates our checks later if you are successful.

Research organisations, academics and universities

To avoid being listed as a business and to ensure you receive the correct funding, enter your information manually on IFS



The screenshot shows the 'Your organisation' page on the Innovation Funding Service. It includes a 'Business' section with a search bar for Companies House. The search results for 'NOMENSA LTD' are displayed, including its registration number (04214477) and address (13 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4NT).

The screenshot shows the 'Please sign in or create an account' page. It has two columns: 'Used this service before?' with a 'Sign in' button, and 'New to this service?' with a 'Create account' button. Below is a 'Sign in' form with fields for 'Email address' and 'Password', and a 'Show' button. There are also links for 'Need help signing in or creating an account?' and 'Forgotten your password?'.

Application Questions

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Applicant location (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 2	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	International Collaboration (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 5	Export licence (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 7	Need or challenge	400 words	No
Question 8	Approach and innovation	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 9	Team and resources	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 10	Market awareness	400 words	No
Question 11	Outcomes and route to market	400 words	No
Question 12	Wider impacts	400 words	No
Question 13	Project management	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 14	Risks	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 15	Added value	400 words	No
Question 16	Costs and value for money	400 words	No

National Security and Investment Act - overview

Subject to certain criteria, UK applicants are legally required to tell the government about acquisitions of certain entities in 17 sensitive areas of the economy (called 'notifiable acquisitions').

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-security-and-investment-act-guidance-on-notifiable-acquisitions/national-security-and-investment-act-guidance-on-notifiable-acquisitions>

These 17 areas are:

- Advanced Materials
- Advanced Robotics
- Artificial Intelligence
- Civil Nuclear
- Communications
- Computing Hardware
- Critical Suppliers to Government
- Cryptographic Authentication
- Data Infrastructure
- Defence
- Energy
- Military and Dual-Use
- Quantum Technologies
- Satellite and Space Technologies
- Suppliers to the Emergency Services
- Synthetic Biology
- Transport

If there is significant uncertainty about whether an acquisition is notifiable, you may contact the government on **investment.screening@cabinetoffice.gov.uk** to seek a view or get legal advice from your own sources.

UK Strategic Export Controls - overview

[UK strategic export controls - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-strategic-export-controls)

The UK government has put together this guidance for those who export or transfer goods, software or technology (including data, information and technical assistance) which might be subject to strategic export controls.

It explains what control lists are, as well as who they apply to and when, so that exporters can make sure they comply with the law.

Applicants should assess how these controls may impact the project and confirm if they will need a licence (see question 5).

Q4 International Collaboration (not scored)

Does your proposed work involve any international collaboration or engagement?

You must provide details of any expected international collaboration or engagement. You must include a list of the names and the countries any international project co-leads, project partners, visiting researchers, or other collaborators are based in. You must also include details of any subcontractors or service providers.

If your proposed work does not involve international collaboration or engagement, your answer must confirm this.

Q6 Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)

You must explain if your proposed project work relates to UKRI's Trusted Research and Innovation Principles, including:

- a list of any dual-use (both military and non-military) applications to your research
- a list of the areas where your project is relevant to one or more of the 17 areas of the UK National Security and Investment (NSI) Act)
- whether an export control license is required for this project under the academic export control guidance and the status of any applications
- a list of any items or substances on the UK Strategic Export Control List

We may ask you to provide additional TR&I information at a later date, in line with UKRI TR&I Principles and funding terms and conditions

Project Impact questions

- Each organisation in your application will complete the Project Impact questions within the 'Supporting information' section
- The Project Impact questions ask for data about your business and innovation and its contribution to the UK economy, society, and the environment
- Visit the [Project Impact guidance](#) page for more information, the types of questions you will be asked and how to get further support
- By providing this data, you are enabling us to better understand the impact of our support. It will help us identify success stories and provide evidence to government and the public of the value of supporting innovative businesses



For more information:

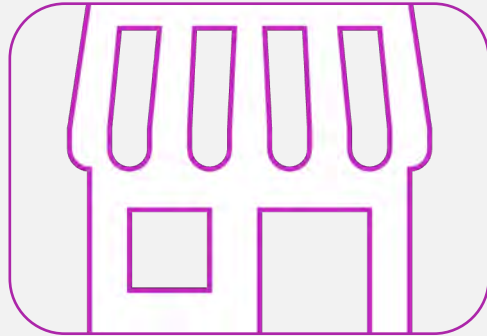
- [Watch Our Impact Management Framework video](#)
- [How is the Project Impact data collected? video](#)

Your Project Cost Categories

View our [Application Finances Instructional Video](#)



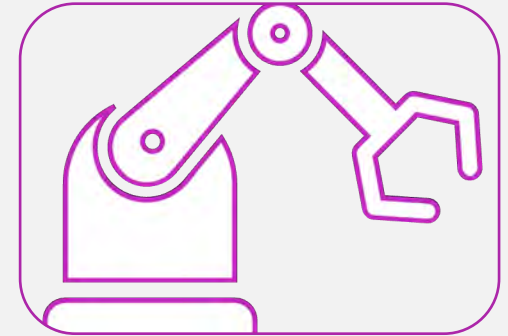
Labour



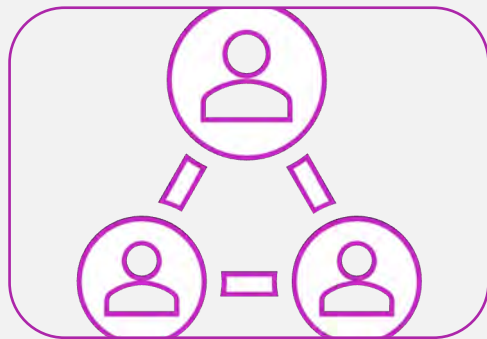
Overheads



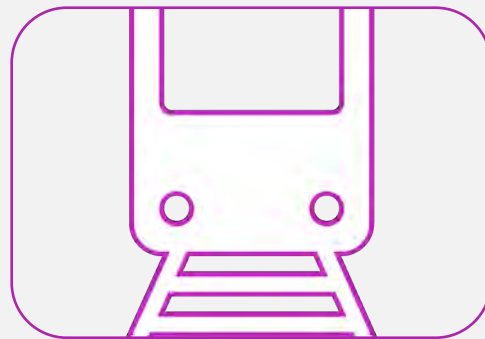
Materials



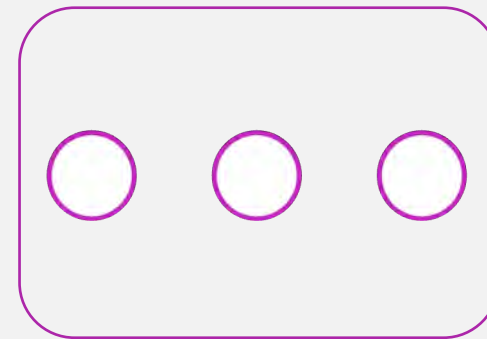
Capital Usage



Subcontractors



Travel &
Subsistence





Other

Your project finances


Finances

Your organisation is required to submit its project finances. Your organisation's project costs can be seen in the 'Finances overview'.


Your project finances  Incomplete


[Finances overview](#)  Incomplete


Finances


 Only members from your organisation will be able to see a breakdown of your finances.

Please complete your project finances.

[Your project costs](#)  Incomplete

[Your project location](#)  Incomplete

[Your organisation](#)  Incomplete

[Your funding](#)  Incomplete

Your project costs

Add your project costs by category – refer to previous slide for link to instructional video

Your project location

Enter postcode for where most of the project work will take place.

Your organisation

Add details of your organisation including size, turnover and number of employees

Your funding

Include your funding level percentage according to the competition's funding rules.

You can declare Other Public Sector Funding here if you have previously received public money for **exactly** the same activities

Checking your finances are complete

Finances summary

These organisations have not marked their finances as complete:

- Ludlow
- EGGS

This application cannot be submitted until all items in the finances section have been marked as complete by all partners.

		Total costs (£)	Funding level (%)	Funding sought (£)	Contribution to project (£)	Other public sector funding (£)
Empire Ltd Lead organisation	✓	200,903	30.00	57,803	140,632	2,468
Ludlow Partner	⚠	200,903	30.00	57,803	140,632	2,468
EGGS Partner	⚠	990	100.00	990	0	0
Total	⚠	£402,796		116,596	281,264	4,936

Check your finances have been correctly entered, with the correct costs, funding level % and funding sought figures, as per the eligibility criteria of the competition.

If collaborative, the lead must ensure that all partners have marked their finances as complete.

Research organisation participation must be no greater than **50%** of the total project costs.

IFS DOES NOT VALIDATE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS


Terms and Conditions

Before you can submit your application, **all** organisations in an application must agree to the draft terms and conditions for this competition. Please ensure you share the T&Cs with your legal team at the earliest possible opportunity.


Terms and conditions

You must agree to these before you submit your application.

[Award terms and conditions](#)

 Incomplete

[Review and submit](#)

 [Print your application](#)



I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[Agree and continue](#)

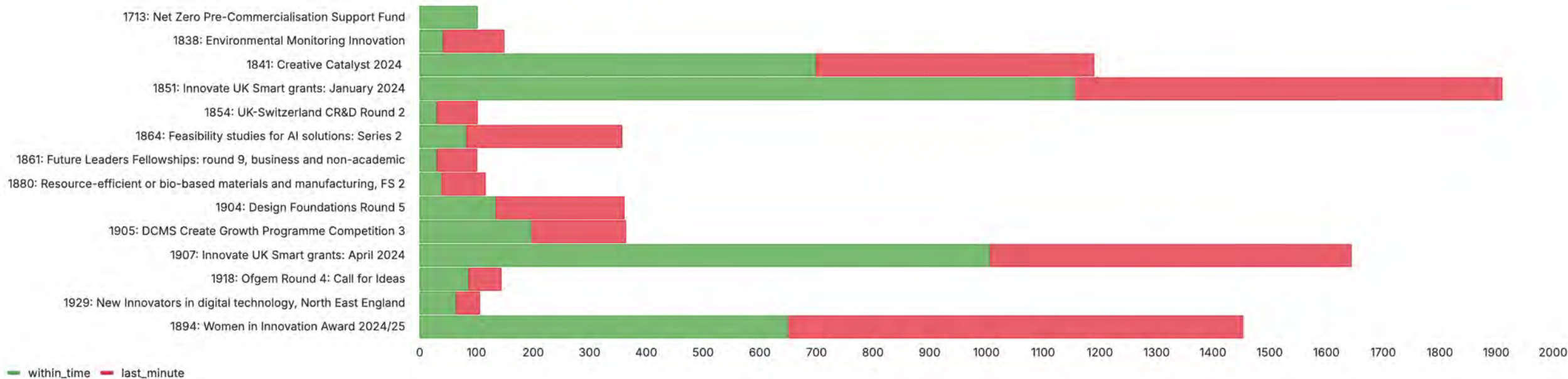


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Submitting your application

Customer Support can help resolve any issues you might have when submitting **but only if they are contacted before the deadline.**

Once the deadline has passed, your application cannot be submitted.



Editing a submitted application

test
Application number: 242
Competition: 599 Covid de minimis round 2

Awaiting assessment

Application submitted

[Reopen](#)

Reopen by clicking here

Terms and conditions
You must agree to these before you submit your application.

[Award terms and conditions](#) ✓ Complete

[Review and submit](#) [Print your application](#)

Remember to press
'Submit application'

Terms and conditions [Open all](#)

[Award terms and conditions](#) ✓ Complete +

[Submit application](#)

Need help with this service? [Contact us](#)

Pros & Cons of using AI to support you

With the advances in AI technology, it is only natural to use technology to support you in applying to our competitions. Whilst we don't recommend or advise against it, we would like to make you aware of the following which could potentially impact your project.

Pros

- Removes barriers for people with disabilities and non-English speakers
- Allows you to rephrase your content to meet the word count in a question
- Ensures all aspects of a question are answered
- Can aid a better understanding of:
 - intended/wider market
 - best practice in project management
 - complementary technologies and advances in the industry
 - expected project impacts

Cons

- It is not always accurate in its assumptions and can get things wrong
- AI learns from the information you give it as well as what it has already learnt
- May provide a generic response meaning your application could use similar phrasing to others
- AI can be detected as non-human as it lacks expression and insight because it relies on logic to summarise information based on the question asked

Funding Rules



Innovate
UK



You are unable to claim funding if

- you are an **overseas organisation** - your company number begins with **FC**
- your organisation is **setup as a branch** - your company number begins with **BR**
- you are a **collaboration with no formal structure of ownership or control** - your company number begins with **ML**
- you are a **Crown Dependency**:
 - if your company is based in **Jersey** - your company number begins with **JE**
 - if your company is based in **Guernsey**
 - if your company is based in the **Isle of Man**

Other Innovate UK projects

If you have an **overdue** final claim or Independent Accountant Report (IAR) on a live Innovate UK project, you will not be eligible to apply to this competition, as a lead or a partner organisation.

We will not award you any further funding if you:

- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and were awarded funding by Innovate UK, but did not make a substantial effort to exploit that award
- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and failed to comply with grant terms and conditions
- please note if you have a live project in progress this does not prohibit you from entering this competition

Compliance with the UK Subsidy Control Regime

On 4th January 2023, the [Subsidy Control Act 2022](#) came into effect.

This provides a framework for public authorities to design and award subsidies in a compliant way, whilst minimising any negative effects of subsidies both within the UK and Internationally.

Innovate UK offers funding in line with the UK's obligations and commitments to Subsidy Control. To ensure that Innovate UK remains compliant with the UK's international Subsidy Control duties in respect of:

- the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement;
- the subsidy control act 2022
- Article 10 of the Windsor Framework (successful applicants which are affected by the Windsor Framework will be funded in line with [EU State aid regulations](#))
- Article 138 of the Withdrawal Agreement (some Union law applicable after 31 December 2020 in relation to the UK's participation in Union programmes and activities)
- the Subsidies and Countervailing measures within the WTO (ASCM)
- any other Free Trade Agreements active at the time of award

All awards will be conditional on compliance at all times with the UK's international obligations on Subsidy Control - this will be reflected in the terms and conditions of any award.

Subsidy Control (and State aid where relevant)

The Subsidy Control Act 2022 definition of a 'subsidy' means financial assistance which:

1. is given by a public authority. This can be at any level: central, devolved, regional or local government or a public body.
2. makes a contribution (this could be a financial or an in-kind contribution) to an enterprise, conferring an economic advantage that is not available on market terms.
3. affects international trade.

For awards made from 4 January 2023, the majority are subject to Subsidy Control Act 2022. EU State aid rules now only apply in certain limited circumstances.

Financial viability and eligibility

Innovate UK is unable to award funding to organisations that are considered to be in financial difficulty. All applicant organisations are subjected to financial viability and eligibility checks to ensure they are suitable for public funding.

[General guidance on Subsidy control \(and State aid where relevant\).](#)

Article 10 of the Windsor Framework

The EU and the UK formally adopted the [Windsor Framework](#) on 24 March 2023.

The Windsor Framework replaces the Northern Ireland Protocol, providing a new legal and UK constitutional framework.

Article 10 provides that European Union State aid rules will continue to apply to the UK in respect of measures which affect trade in goods or the electricity market between Northern Ireland and the EU.

Article 10 does not directly apply to subsidies for services and such subsidies will need to comply with the UK's subsidy control regime.

Undertakings in difficulty

In the unusual circumstance of an award having to be made under the EU GBER regulation (State aid), the applicant must pass **'undertaking in difficulty' checks as defined by GBER (2014)**.


Guidance on [Article 10 of the Windsor Framework](#).


Assessment

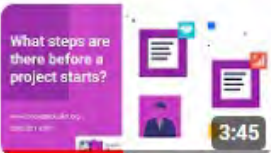



Assessment


[YouTube Playlist](#)

- 

1 **How do our assessors assess?**
Innovate UK • 8.1K views • 2 years ago
2:33
- 

2 **How are successful applications selected for funding?**
Innovate UK • 17K views • 2 years ago
2:39
- 

3 **What steps are there before a project starts?**
Innovate UK • 7.7K views • 2 years ago
3:45
- 

4 **How are successful projects monitored?**
Innovate UK • 4.1K views • 2 years ago
2:20
- 

5 **How successful applicants receive their funding.**
Innovate UK • 4.6K views • 2 years ago
2:51



Project setup

If you pass the technical assessment, you will have a further eight steps detailed in your notification to complete in Project Setup before being able to start your project.

These are:

- Project details
- Project team
- Documents
- You will be allocated a Monitoring Service Provider (MSP)
- Bank details
- Finance checks
- Spend profile
- Grant Offer Letter

Please share the T&Cs with your legal team at the earliest possible opportunity to avoid any delays.

You are expected to complete all the steps above within **60 calendar** days of receiving your notification. Failure to do so may result in funding being withdrawn.

Work can only commence on your project once you have received your Go Live email.

How you get paid

- Grants are claimed and paid out following authorisation, **quarterly in arrears**
- Organisations being funded at less than 100% will need to provide evidence that they will have funding available to meet their share of costs
- You can only claim for costs incurred between your project's start and end date
- Grant can only be paid into an approved UK bank account

Bank account – Guidance



Accepted business bank accounts – subject to change

- Advance Payment Solutions (Part of Cashplus Ltd)
- Allica Bank
- Allied Irish Banks
- Bank of Ireland (UK)
- Bank of Scotland
- Bank of America
- Barclays
- BNP Paribas
- C Hoare & Co
- CAF Bank
- Citi Bank UK
- Clear Bank
- Commerz Bank
- Coutts
- Danske Bank
- Deutsche Bank
- DNB Bank ASA
- Guaranty Trust Bank (UK) Limited
- Handelsbanken Plc
- HSBC
- J.P. Morgan UK
- Lloyds
- Metro Bank
- Mettle
- Mizuho Bank Ltd
- MUFG Bank Ltd
- Monzo
- NatWest
- Nordea
- Revolut
- Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS)
- Santander
- Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken Ab (Publ) [SEB]
- Starling
- The Bank of East Asia
- The Co-operative Bank
- Tide Bank
- Triodos Bank
- TSB Bank
- Ulster Bank
- Unity Trust Bank
- Virgin Money
- Wells Fargo Bank N.A.

Additional Support



Reasonable adjustments

We welcome and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds and are committed to making our application process accessible to everyone. This includes making [reasonable adjustments](#), for people who have a disability or a long-term condition and face barriers applying to us.

You can contact us at any time to ask for guidance. We recommend you contact us at least 15 working days before this competition's closing date to allow us to put the most suitable support in place. The support we can provide may be limited if you contact us close to the competition deadline.

You can contact Innovate UK by [email](#) or call 0300 321 4357. Our phone lines are open from 9am to 12pm and 2pm to 5pm UK time, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).

Reasonable adjustments – what we need from you

To apply for a reasonable adjustment we will need to collect some information from you, below is the list of what we need:

- Name
- Organisation
- Email address
- Phone number
- Competition you are applying to
- Application number if you've started an application
- Consent to pass info to Innovate UK Business Connect

This information must be given to Innovate UK Customer Support Services, Business Connect are unable to provide support without a referral from CSS

Further information on the process can be found here <https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/how-we-help/reasonable-adjustments-service/>

Reasonable adjustments – what we can do

Below is a list of possible adjustments we can make, this list is not exhaustive and not every adjustment will be appropriate for you, adjustments will be made on a case-by-case basis:

- Proofreading
- Clarifying language
- Resources
- Introduction to experts
- Time management
- Note-taking

Reasonable adjustments – what we can not do

The reasonable adjustments offered are designed to remove barriers to applying, they are not designed to make decisions for you or give you advice on an application. With that in mind, the support we offer does not include the below:

- Providing deadline extensions
- Choosing which competition to apply to
- Developing an idea
- Advising whether your idea is in scope for a competition
- Offering financial advice
- Helping with research

Useful Information

- UKRI's [General Guidance](#)
- Innovate UK Business Connect's [Good Application Guide](#)
- [Who we fund](#)
- Collaboration Agreement Guidance: [Lambert Toolkit](#)
- [Innovate UK: Shaping the Future](#)

Funding opportunities

To find out more about the competitions currently available you can visit either the [Innovation Funding Service \(IFS\)](#) or the [funding finder](#) on the UKRI website. Through these links, you can review the competitions available and decide which ones may be right for you.

You can [sign up to our newsletter](#) to receive all the latest information on our competitions straight to your inbox or [register for email alerts](#) to get page updates from Innovate UK.

The government also offers [other opportunities for businesses to get finance and support](#).

Innovate UK reserves the rights to host competitions on a needs basis and will adjust each competition criteria and scope accordingly. We may occasionally run closed competitions that are for invited applicants only. These are run based on the challenge requirement or need.

Q&A



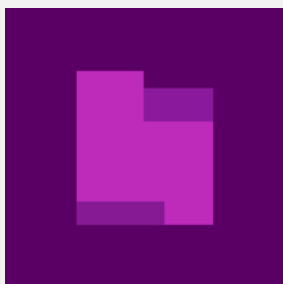
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Contact

Customer Support Services

0300 321 4357 (Monday - Friday 9am-12pm and 2pm-5pm)

support@iuk.ukri.org



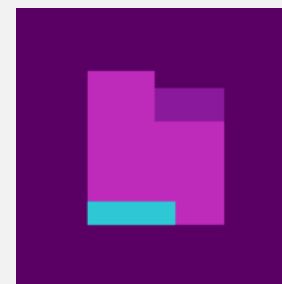
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ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk



**Innovate UK
Business Connect**

<https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/>



**Innovate UK Business
Growth**

www.iukbg.ukri.org

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