



Innovate
UK

Growth Cohorts: Next generation low carbon concrete cohort entry

Applicant Briefing

Date: **24/04/2026**

The webinar will start at **11:00am**

- 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

James Rayner

Competition Manager, Net Zero

Catherine Makin and Gavin Lewis

Innovation Leads, Clean Energy

Christopher Pilgrim

Knowledge Transfer Manager, Materials

Fanni Byrne

Customer Relationship Manager



Agenda

- 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 Opened	Monday 20th April 2026
Submission Deadline	Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 11am
Interview Panel Commencing	Monday 7th September 2026
Interview Panel Concluding	Friday 11th September 2026
Applicants informed	Thursday 17th September 2026 by 5pm
Project start and end dates	Start by Tuesday 1st December 2026 End by Monday 31st May 2026

Competition Summary & Scope



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Summary

Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), will invest up to £11.5 million to create a cohort of ambitious businesses, across a two-stage competition, to accelerate concrete decarbonisation.

The aim of this competition is to recruit ambitious businesses to join a Growth Cohort. The Growth Cohort will fund and support businesses to accelerate their ambitions to decarbonise concrete.

The Growth Cohort will work collectively with industry to help remove barriers to adoption, ultimately aiming for a greater number of innovative solutions to secure investment and scale to market.

Summary

This is phase 1 of a potential 2-phase competition to join a Growth Cohort of ambitious businesses innovating to decarbonise concrete.

Businesses in the Growth Cohort will access funding and sector-specific support to develop (in stage one) and deliver (in stage two) ambitious, executable innovation and growth plans.

The first stage of the competition will select which companies will join the Growth Cohort. The output of this first stage will be a co-created, tailored funding and support package aligned to the growth plan, which would form the basis of a proposal for the second stage.

In 2026, Innovate UK will build a cohort of ambitious businesses with solutions to decarbonise concrete.

Concrete is undergoing a remarkable transformation, driven by innovations that enhance sustainability, performance, and versatility. The UK needs to rapidly scale the adoption of low-carbon concrete solutions to meet the built environment's 2050 net zero targets.

Innovate UK's next-generation low-carbon concrete Growth Cohort will deliver a new approach to funding and supporting scaling businesses in this high-growth sector.

The Growth Cohort pilots a responsive, tailored and more agile support offer that aims to enable ambitious businesses to unlock the barriers to commercialisation and deployment. It aims to improve businesses capacity to attract investment through initiatives that derisk and upskill companies, allowing them to access greater pools of capital at the later stages. This will allow a greater number of innovative solutions to secure investment and scale to market.

We need businesses that have started to build traction in the construction industry, are active in the sustainable concrete supply chain, and are ambitious for growth.

The Growth Cohort is part of Innovate UK's Clean Energy Investment and Scale programme.



The Offer

Once successful applicant businesses are recruited into the Growth Cohort, they will be supported by a dedicated Cohort Manager and will work for up to 6 months (depending on the status of their existing plans at point of cohort entry) to co-create their **tailored funding and support package** aligned to the delivery of their **ambitious innovation and growth plan**.

During these 6 months and beyond, sector-specific “wrap around” support will be provided including peer-to-peer networking and learning, investor engagement, market and industry engagement and international market exploration.

Once a cohort business has defined its needs, a request can be submitted to Innovate UK for additional support to help the business achieve its defined objectives.

Businesses in this Growth Cohort must be able dedicate sufficient resource to actively participate in the programme and the range of activities on offer across the duration of the programme, to March 2030.



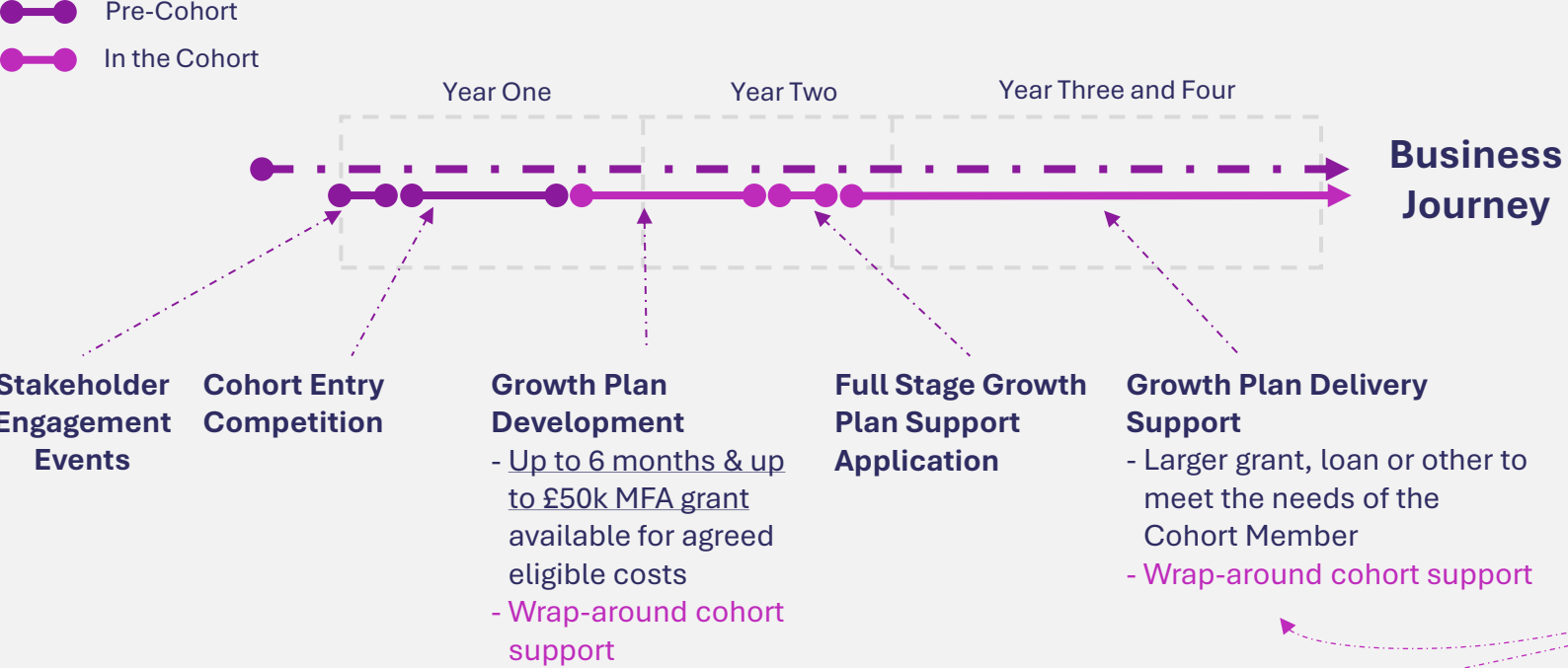
The Next-Generation Low-Carbon Concrete Growth Cohort

Up to 20 businesses will be recruited into the Growth Cohort through a series of entry competitions between April 2026 and January 2028.

Innovate UK anticipates investing up to £11.5m in this programme by its completion in 2030.



Growth Cohort Offer and Journey



Example Wrap-Around Support

Wider Engagement

- Sector-relevant trade shows
- Showcases
- ‘Office hours’ / investor intros / mentoring
- International showcasing
- Peer to peer networking
- Introductions

Solving Industry Challenges

- Convening cohort members and relevant stakeholders on policy, regulatory, commercial barriers (e.g. insurance)

Entry Competition Scope

Your business and project must:

- be ambitious with solutions to decarbonise concrete that have started to build traction in the construction industry
- be active in the sustainable concrete supply chain
- provide a letter of support from a commercial entity currently operating in the concrete supply chain demonstrating that your idea is considered scalable within the concrete industry
- upload a video in response to the video pitch question in your application

Entry Competition Scope

Your project must focus on one or more of the following technologies:

- alternatives to Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) as a concrete binder, for example, calcined clay or combinations of calcined clay and limestone
- improving the efficiency or optimisation of cement or concrete production, for example kiln efficiency or reducing binder content
- recycling of cement
- additives that reduce the carbon footprint of new concrete structures
- using concrete to sequester carbon, or trap carbon within concrete
- investigating different concrete chemistry for reinforced concrete, if it shows clearly, it can decarbonise concrete
- improving the efficiency of cement and concrete use

Applicants must consider how their solutions align to the [Target Product Profiles \(TPPs\)](#) [linked to the Innovate UK supported Advance Market Commitment.](#)

Out of Scope

We are not funding projects that:

- use fresh fly ash or Ground Granulated Blast furnace Slag (GGBS) as principal Supplementary Cementitious Materials (SCMs), unless the innovation is actively looking to reduce their use
- develop alternative fuels for cement production
- focus on aggregate or aggregate replacements
- focus on alternative fuels
- develop Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) applied to cement production where this does not involve the captured carbon being sequestered in concrete
- focus on making the steel in reinforced concrete last longer
- concern the replacement of concrete with other building materials
- solely focus on additives without considering their use in concrete
- are not original, in scope or duplicates someone else's work

Eligibility criteria



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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Your project must:

- have a grant funding request of £50,000
- last for 6 months
- start by 1 December 2026
- end by 31 May 2027
- upload a video in response to the video pitch question in your application

Any funded organisation needs to carry out their project work in the UK and must intend to exploit the project results from or in the UK.

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

- This competition is open to single applicants only.
- Your organisation must be a UK registered business of any size.

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

Eligibility Criteria – Number of Applications & Subcontractors

Number of applications

A [business](#) of any size can only apply and receive funding once in this first stage competition.

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 subcontractors from the UK.

You must also provide a detailed rationale, evidence of the potential UK contractors you approached and the reasons why they were unable to work with you.

We expect all subcontractor costs to be justified and appropriate to the total eligible project costs. We will not accept a cheaper cost as a sufficient reason to use an overseas subcontractor.

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



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

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

◀ Back

Create your account

Your organisation

i Your organisation must be UK based to receive funding from Innovate UK

Business

Find your organisation on Companies House
Enter your organisation name or registration number

Companies House search results
Select your organisation from the options below

[NOMENSA LTD](#)
04214477 - Incorporated on 10 May 2001
13 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4NT

GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

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

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Please sign in or create an account

Used this service before?
Please sign into your Innovation Funding Service account.

New to this service?
If you haven't used the new Innovation Funding Service before you will need to create an account.

Innovation Funding Service Sign in

Email address
Please enter your email address.

Password
Please enter your password.

▼ [Need help signing in or creating an account?](#)

My email and/or password isn't working

If you applied previously using the old service, you will need to create a new account.

[Forgotten your password?](#)

Application Questions - Unscored



Detailed guidance available on IFS

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Applicant location (not scored)	100 words	No
Question 2	Minimal Financial Assistance declaration (not scored)	Document Upload	Yes - mandatory
Question 3	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 5	International Collaboration (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 6	Export licence (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 7	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 8	Letter of support (not scored)	Document Upload	Yes - mandatory
Question 9	Technology (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 10	Technology maturity (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 11	Business stage (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 12	Beneficiary (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 19	Customers (not scored)	Multiple choice	No

Application Questions

Detailed guidance available on IFS



Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 13	Benefits	400 words	No
Question 14	Sustainability	400 words	No
Question 15	Milestones	400 words	No
Question 16	Skills	400 words	No
Question 17	Skills gaps	400 words	No
Question 18	Risks	400 words	No
Question 20	Customers detail	400 words	No
Question 21	Differentiation	400 words	No
Question 22	Market Size	400 words	No
Question 23	Video pitch	Maximum length: 3 minutes	Create and submit using Pitchtape

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).

Q5 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.

Q7 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

Application redesign

Innovate UK has redesigned applications for competitive support.

This competition uses a new application form that has been designed and developed;

- in response to feedback from previous applicants, and in collaboration with external experts and user testing
- to improve the structure of the application form, how it flows and to avoid duplication
- to bring consistency while reducing administrative burden for applicants and assessors
- to provide applicants with increased clarity about what each question is asking for
- to focus more on innovation capability and capacity of businesses

Q8 Letter of support (not scored)

You must add 'Letter of support uploaded' as your answer. Failure to upload the letter of support will result in your application being out of scope.

You must submit a letter of support as an appendix. The letter of support must be from a commercial entity currently operating in the concrete supply chain. It must be a PDF no larger than 10MB. It can be up to two A4 pages and must be legible at 100% zoom.

NOTE: The Letter of Support must come from a commercial entity currently operating in the concrete supply chain demonstrating that your idea is considered scalable within the concrete industry.

The commercial entity may be a concrete producer, user or trade association. The letter of support must clearly articulate their role in the supply chain with evidence, for example:

- membership of an active relevant trade association
- why they might support your companies' ambitions

The letter of support must confirm that your idea has potential to be scalable within the concrete industry but does not need to constitute a commercial contract, formal partnership, or equivalent.

Q23 Video Pitch

Why have you chosen to apply for this award, what is your vision for the future of your business and how do you differentiate yourself?

When you enter Pichtape to record your video, you will be asked to respond to these three question prompts:

- showcase your business and innovation and your differentiation
- outline your business growth ambitions and target growth plan
- what you want to achieve with this support and why you have chosen to apply

Under the Eligibility criteria for this competition you must submit a PitchTape video in response to this question.

If you need reasonable adjustment support when making a video, you must submit a request to support@iuk.ukri.org at least 15 working days before this competition's closing date. We will provide further support and guidance if you are eligible to submit a written answer instead of a Pichtape video.

Interviews - Preparation

If you are shortlisted for interview, ahead of your interview:

- you will be required to complete a survey provided by Early Metrics, the results will be made available to the interview panel
- you will receive questions specific to your application that you must answer at your interview

Before the interview and by the deadline stated in the invitation email, you:

- must send a list of who will attend the interview
- must send your interview presentation slides
- can send a written response to the assessors' feedback

Interviews - Attendance

At the interviews:

- you can bring up to **five** people to attend the interview
- you will have **20 minutes** to present a maximum of **10 PowerPoint slides**, with no videos or embedded links
- this time is inclusive of **10 minutes** to answer questions provided to you ahead of your interview, and you can have an **additional 5 slides** to answer the questions provided
- there is a further **10-minute** Q&A session lead by members of the panel after the presentation
- the response to feedback, presentations and presenters' names have to be provided ahead of the interview

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 finances

Your project costs

Both your project's total grant funding request and total project costs must be £50,000. If your grant request or total project costs differ from this amount, then your application will be made ineligible.

You must enter your £50,000 project costs into the "Other costs" category in this finance section.

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

[Back to your project finances](#)

Your project costs

Provide the project costs for 'I am a business'
Only your organisation can see this level of detail. All members of your organisation can access and edit your project finances. We recommend assigning completion of your project finances to one member of your team.

[Show all sections](#)

Labour	£0
Show	
Overhead costs	£0
Show	
Materials	£0
Show	
Capital usage	£0
Show	
Subcontracting	£0
Show	
Travel and subsistence	£0
Show	
Other costs	£0
Show	
'I am a business' Total project costs	£0

[Return to finances](#)


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

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 into the "Other costs" category

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.

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](#)



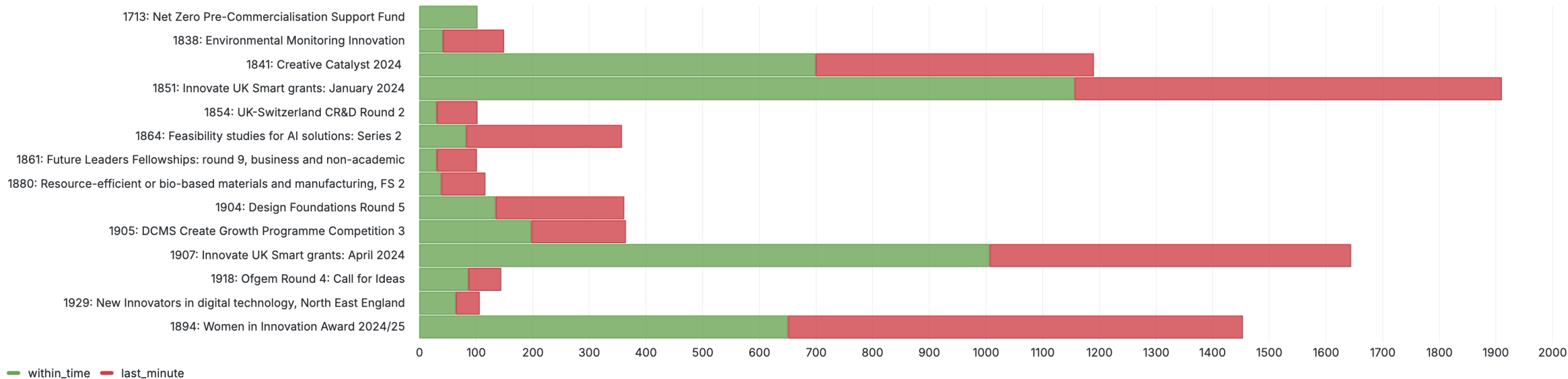
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[Agree and continue](#)

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



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 outstanding 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.

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.

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 \(and State aid where relevant\).](#)

Minimal Financial Assistance (previously Special Drawing Rights) or De Minimis

Grant funding in this competition is awarded as minimal financial assistance (MFA). This allows public bodies to award up to £315,000 to an enterprise in a 3-year rolling financial period.

To establish your eligibility, we need to check that our support added to the amount you have previously received does not exceed the limit of £315,000 in the 'applicable period'.

The applicable period is made up of:

- (a) the elapsed part of the current financial year
- (b) the two financial years immediately preceding the current financial year

In your application, you will be asked to declare previous funding received by you.

This will form part of the financial checks ahead of Innovate UK making a formal grant offer.

EU Commission rules now only apply in limited circumstances. Find out more about the [De Minimis regulation](#).

Grant requested

Finances

Close all

Finances summary

The finances of all project partners are included in this summary.

	Total costs (£)	Funding level (%)	Funding sought (£)	Contribution to project (£)	Other public sector funding (£)
Organisation	£50,000	100.00	£50,000	0	0

- Your Total costs and Funding sought figures must be exactly **£50,000**. Both numbers must match.
- You must request 100% funding
 - To note: some applicants may need to adjust this figure as they may have reached their MFA limit
- IFS will not correct you if your Funding level is less than 100% or if your costs and grant request don't match

Grant requested

Untitled application

Your funding

Are you requesting funding?

Yes

Select a funding level

The maximum you can enter is 100%, based on this [competition's rules \(opens in a new window\)](#).

%

No

- This is where you place your funding level percentage figure
- MFA projects must be funded at 100% of costs

Finances

Close all

Finances summary

The finances of all project partners are included in this summary.

	Total costs (£)	Funding level (%)	Funding sought (£)	Contribution to project (£)	Other public sector funding (£)
Organisation	£30,000	100.00	£30,000	0	0

Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) Declaration Form

Declaration statement

I confirm that I **have not** received any funding in the applicable period as defined above. *(Please check the box if applicable and move to Recipient Acknowledgments.)*

or

I confirm that I **have** received the following funding in the applicable period as defined above. *(Please check the box if applicable and complete the table below.)*

DECLARATION:

I believe that the facts stated in this Declaration are true. I understand that legal proceedings for false and inaccurate declarations may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Company	
Applicant Name	
Signature	
Date	

False declarations will result in withdrawal of the offer made by the Authority. If an award is made to you based on false information, the Authority has the right to recover funding in full.


A	B	C	D
Body who provided the funding <i>(Who awarded you the funding?)</i>	Funding Amount received in GBP	Funding Amount received in Euros <i>(only use this column to declare your conversion of the Deminimis funding you previously received in euros)</i>	Date awarded


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

Cyber Action Toolkit

The NSCS has created a free [Cyber Action Toolkit](#) that gives clear bite-sized actions to protect small businesses, their money and reputation from cyber crime' The NSCS has created a free [Cyber Action Toolkit](#) that gives clear bite-sized actions to protect small businesses, their money and reputation from cyber crime

Search “NCSC cyber toolkit” or click here: <https://cybertoolkit.service.ncsc.gov.uk/>



The screenshot shows the landing page for the Cyber Action Toolkit. At the top left, there is a green shield icon followed by the text "Cyber Action Toolkit". At the top right, there are two buttons: "Sign in" with a user icon and "Get free toolkit". The main heading in the center reads "Start protecting your business with our free cyber toolkit", with "free" underlined in yellow. Below the heading, a sub-headline states: "The Cyber Action Toolkit gives you clear, bite-sized actions to protect your business's money and reputation from cyber criminals." At the bottom, it says "Provided by" followed by the logos for the National Cyber Security Centre and the UK Government.

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.

Drop-in sessions

Optional sessions to ask questions about your application and the Growth Cohorts programme.

Register using the same link as for this briefing event:

<https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/events/next-generation-low-carbon-concrete-growth-cohort-briefing-event/>

Optional Drop In Sessions

If you would like to attend a drop in session after the briefing, please select one below.

1 May 2026

11:00-12:00	Drop In - Session 1	Select
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21 May 2026

14:00-15:00	Drop In - Session 2	Select
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18 June 2026

14:00-15:00	Drop In - Session 3	Select
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Q&A



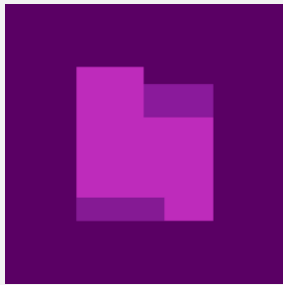
Innovate
UK

Contact

Customer Support Services

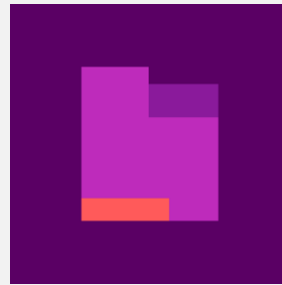
0300 321 4357 (Monday - Friday 9am-12pm and 2pm-5pm)

support@iuk.ukri.org



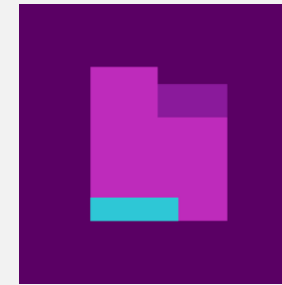
Innovate UK

ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk



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Thank You

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