



Innovate
UK

Next Wave: Breakthrough Wave 1

Applicant Briefing

Date: 3 July

The webinar will start at 10am

- 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

Abbie Wood

Competition Manager, Digital & Technology

Robert Fathers

Innovation Lead, Creative Industries

Tom Fiddian

Head of Creative Industries

Andy Curtis

Head of Digital Economy and Creative Industries



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Agenda

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



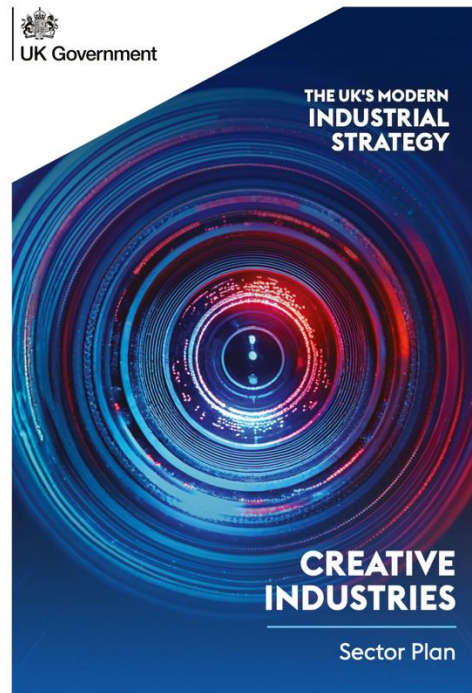
Competition Summary & Scope

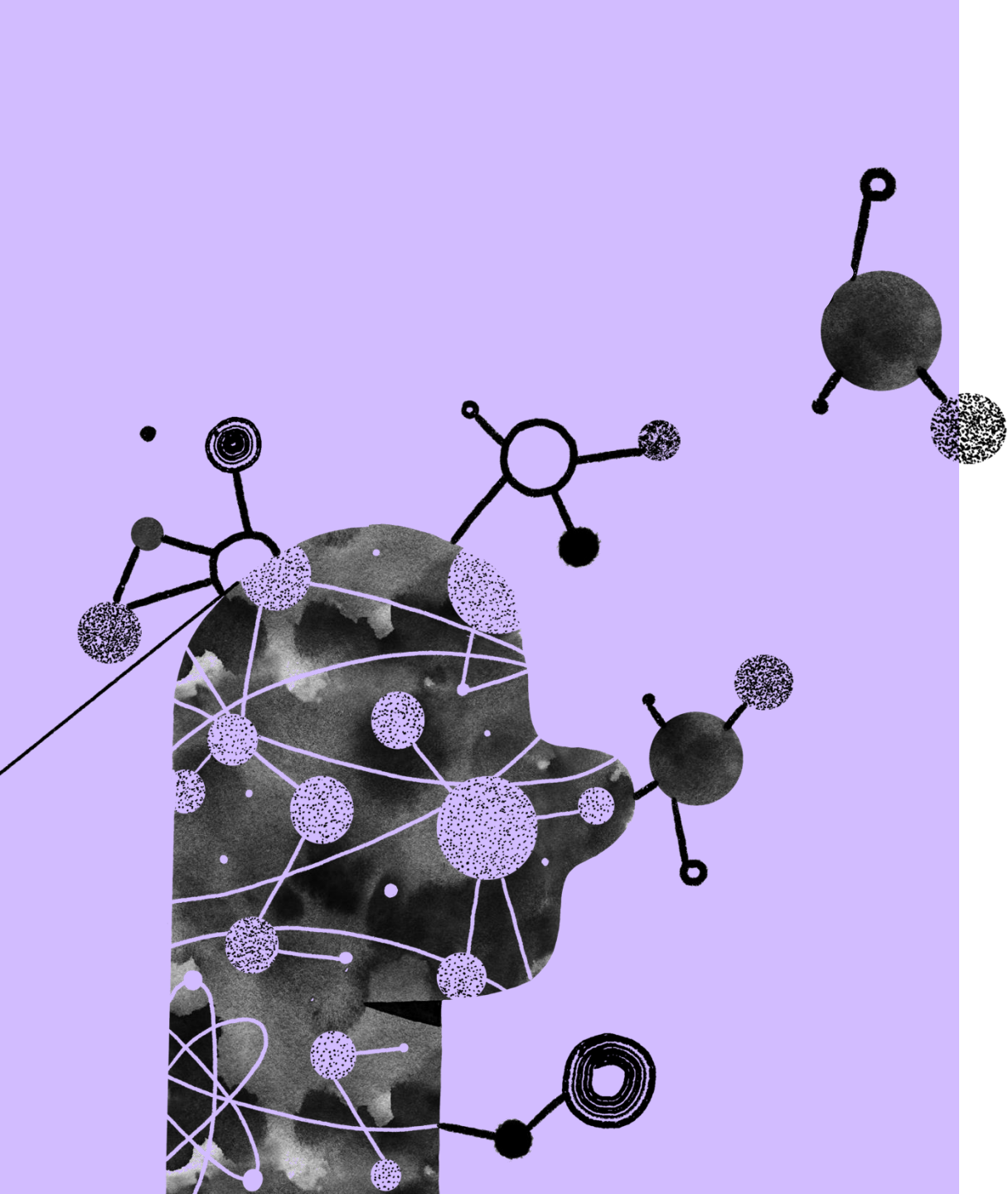


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| THE FOUNDATIONS OF NEXT WAVE





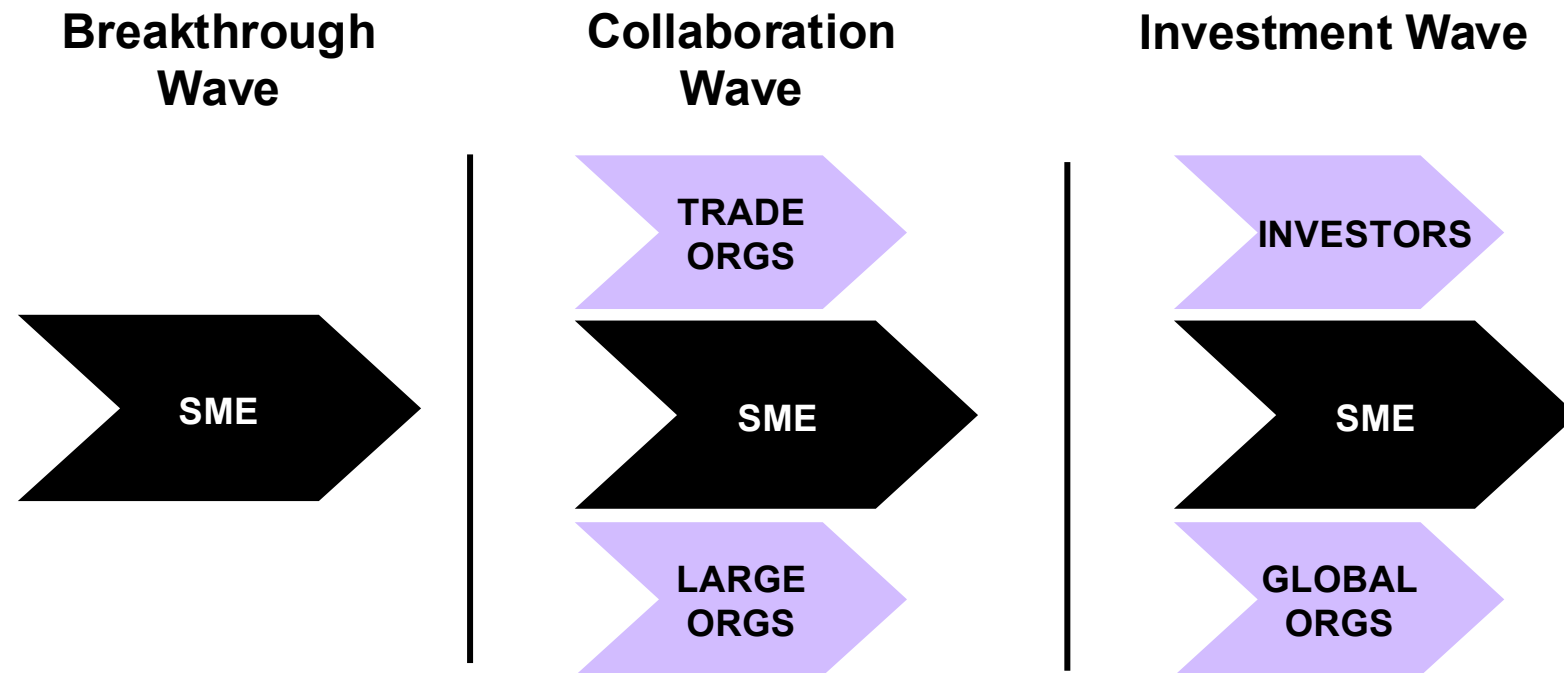
NEXT WAVE INNOVATE UK'S CREATIVE PROGRAMME

Next Wave backs commercially scalable digital platforms and services in the Frontier Industries where the UK has a clear right to win.

The programme is demand-led: working with broadcasters, global platforms, major IP holders and other market engines to give SMEs clearer customer pull, data access and routes to market.

By focusing innovation around real commercial needs, Next Wave helps high-growth UK SMEs move faster from promising ideas to investable, adoptable and globally competitive businesses.

NEXT WAVE SUPPORT PIPELINE



NEXT WAVE SUPPORT PIPELINE

Breakthrough Wave

June 2026
Breakthrough Wave 1

Collaboration Wave

July 2026
EOI for Industry Anchors

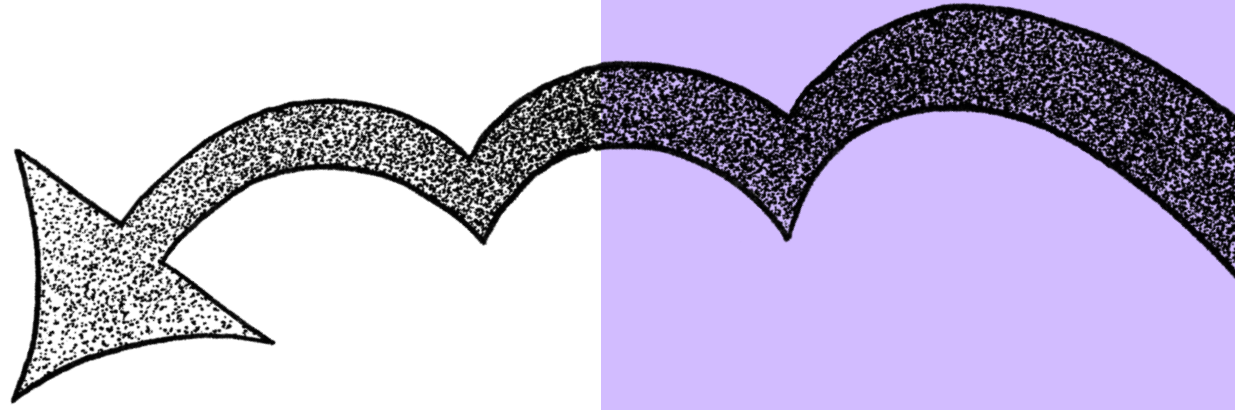
Q4 2026/2027
Competition Phase 1

Investment Wave

July 2026
GBIP Slush, Finland

GBIP Japan

Global Incubator
Canada



SUCCESS IS A TEAM SPORT SPEAK TO US AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

- The ambition of this programme, Innovate UK's strategy and the Creative Industries Sector Plan is significant.
- We can only achieve it by working together to support companies that are strongly aligned with the programme scope.
- Please speak to us before starting your application so we can help confirm whether you are in scope and eligible for funding.
- If this competition is not the right fit, we may still be able to signpost you to more suitable opportunities across UKRI and wider UK government.

Summary

Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), will invest up to £10 million in successful applicants in this competition. This is subject to a sufficient number of high quality applications being received.

The aim of this competition is to support early stage innovation in the intersection of high growth potential Createch and the Industrial Strategy Frontier industries. This funding is to develop innovations beyond proof of concept, de-risking future investment and supporting long term sector growth.

Your project must be developing innovation in high growth commercial digital platforms and services across one or more of the frontier industries as set out in the Creative Industries Sector plan. These are Advertising and Marketing, Film and TV, Video Games and Music, Performing and Visual arts.

If you are working in a different primary sector such as design, but your innovation has strong links to one of the frontier industries please reach out to us and check if you are in scope before starting your application.

Scope - your proposal

The aim of this competition is to support early stage innovation in the intersection of high growth potential Createch and the Industrial Strategy Frontier industries. This funding is to develop innovations beyond proof of concept, de-risking future investment and supporting long term sector growth.

Your project must:

- be from the frontier industries as set out in the [Creative Industries Sector Plan](#)
- focus on innovation in high growth commercial digital platforms and services
- demonstrate a clearly innovative and ambitious idea, addressing an industry challenge and unlocking significant growth
- be a significant improvement on what is currently on offer in your existing business, with a demonstrable impact to your growth plan
- create a new revenue stream, for example, new products, services or IP
- be market ready within 12 months of project completion
- demonstrate value for money
- consider its potential positive social and environmental impacts

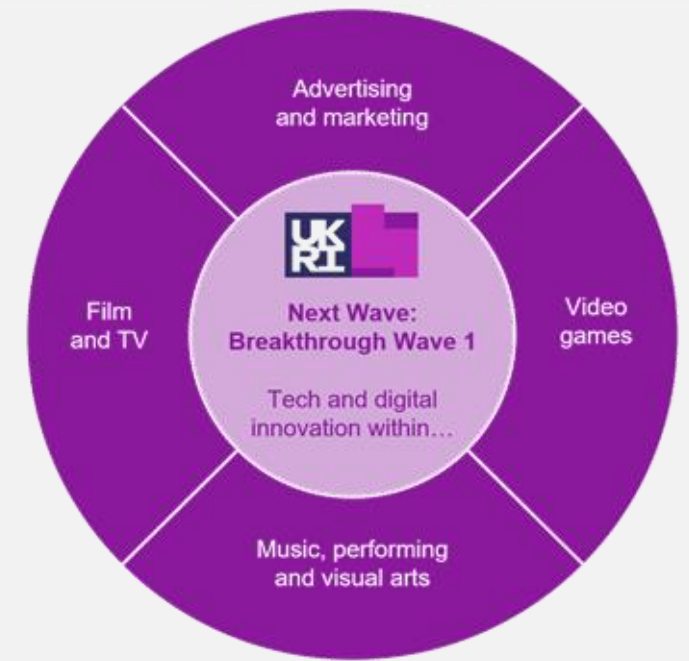
Portfolio approach

We want to fund a variety of projects across different technologies and frontier industries. We call this a [portfolio approach](#).

Specific themes

Your project must focus on commercial digital platforms and services in one of the following frontier industries:

- video games
- advertising and marketing
- film and TV
- music, performing and visual arts



We welcome cross sector applications that combine one or more of the frontier industries with other creative industries sectors. For example, podcasting draws on technologies, business models and creative practices from both the Music and Publishing sectors.

We welcome entries from design businesses with createch innovation contributing to any of the four frontier sectors.

If your project spans a frontier industry and another creative industry sector or design innovation, contact us before starting your application. We will be able to confirm whether your project is within scope and eligible for support under this competition.

We are not funding projects that:

- attribute more than 50% of their costs to subcontractors
- are not within the frontier industries of the creative industries outlined in the Creative Industries Sector Plan
- include sectors such as construction, education, tourism, manufacturing, healthcare or immersive, without clear links to a relevant frontier industry
- come from organisations that are not profit driven or do not have a commercial focus, including Community Interest Companies (CICs) and charities
- commission content, for example, a new festival, game, or film, that do not have an innovative edge to the way your company usually addresses new projects
- are commissioning business as usual (BAU) activities
- lack evidence that their proposed innovation is expected to lead to significant and positive economic impact, or that value for money will be achieved
- are content and not R&D, for example, podcasts, informational only websites, networking platforms, courses, retreats, training
- include physical construction or infrastructure, for example, studio, workspace, hub, deli
- are for fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) products
- create secondary funding, for example, grant programmes, accelerators, awards
- are developing internal workflow tools that do not benefit the wider ecosystem
- are developing social networking sites or community groups
- do not support the creative industries

Eligibility criteria



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Key Dates

Timeline	Date
Competition Opens	23 June 2026
Submission Deadline	11 August 2026 at 11am
Applicants informed	1 October 2026 by 5pm
Project start and end dates	Start by 1 January 2027 End by 31 December 2027



Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Your project must:

- have total project costs between **£100,000** and **£500,000**
- last between **9** and **12** months
- carry out all of its project work in the UK
- intend to exploit the results from or in the UK
- start by **1 January 2027**
- end by **31 December 2027**

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

To lead a project your organisation must:

- be a UK registered micro, small or medium sized enterprise (SME)

Academic institutions and RTOs cannot lead or work alone.

Organisations that are not profit driven or do not have a commercial focus, including Community Interest Companies (CICs) and charities, are not allowed to lead in this competition.

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

Eligibility Criteria – Collaboration

For this competition your project can be collaborative.

To be an eligible collaboration, the lead and at least one other organisation must:

- apply for funding when entering their costs into the application
- include rationale for the collaboration and describe the structure in your application
- ensure any one partner does not account for more than 70% of the total eligible costs

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.

Subcontractor costs must not be more than 50% of the total project costs.

Eligibility Criteria – Number of applications

Number of applications

A business can only lead on one application. Any further applications by the same business as lead will be made ineligible.

A business that is leading an application can be included as a collaborator in a further two applications and if not leading, can collaborate in up to three applications.

An academic institution, research and technology organisation (RTO), charity, not for profit or public sector organisation can be collaborators on three applications.

Previously submitted applications

This competition **does not** allow you to submit a previously submitted application.

Previously submitted application	Not a Previously submitted application
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). If you have previously submitted an application that reached our assessment stage, you can re-apply once more with the same proposal.	A brand-new application, project or idea that you have not previously submitted into an Innovate UK competition. or A previously submitted or ineligible application which: • 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)

Creating an account

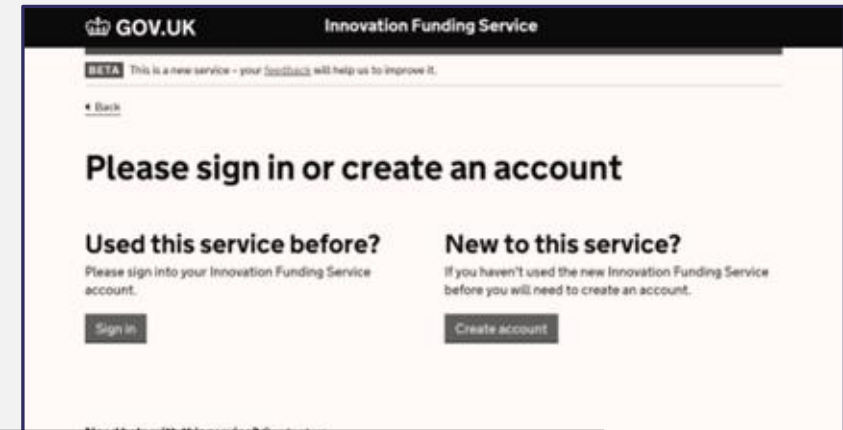
Select the radio button that aligns with your organisation type to apply as the project lead or partner..

For pre-existing businesses

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

If your organisation is yet to be formed

You will need to enter your information manually, should you be successful, you will need to be a registered organisation to receive funding.



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

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

[Back](#)

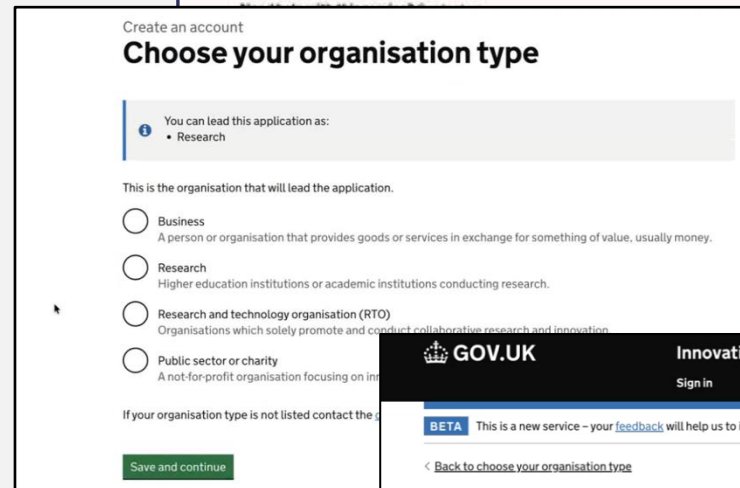
Please sign in or create an account

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

[Sign in](#)

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

[Create account](#)



Create an account

Choose your organisation type

You can lead this application as:

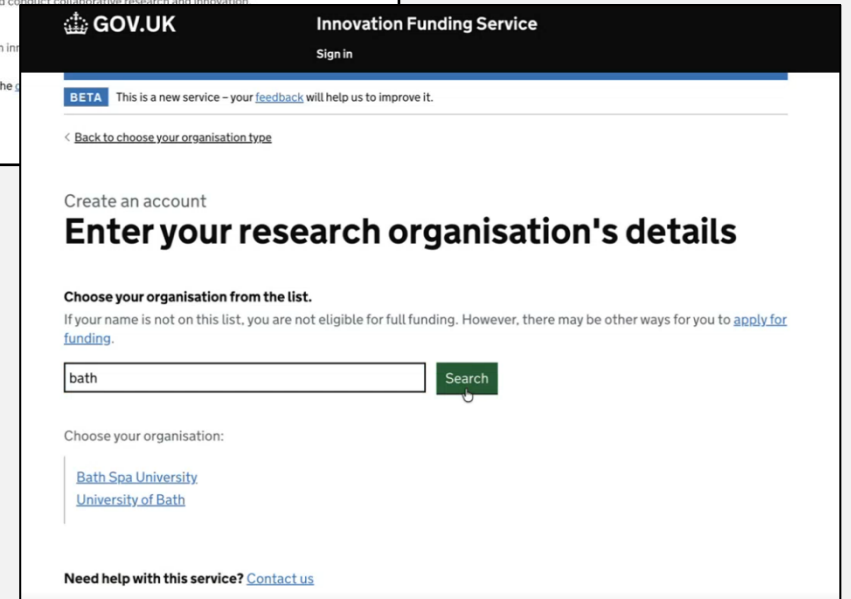
- ☒ Research

This is the organisation that will lead the application.

- ☐ Business
A person or organisation that provides goods or services in exchange for something of value, usually money.
- ☐ Research
Higher education institutions or academic institutions conducting research.
- ☐ Research and technology organisation (RTO)
Organisations which solely promote and conduct collaborative research and innovation.
- ☐ Public sector or charity
A not-for-profit organisation focusing on innovation.

If your organisation type is not listed contact the [Innovation Funding Service](#).

[Save and continue](#)



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

Sign in

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

[Back to choose your organisation type](#)

Create an account

Enter your research organisation's details

Choose your organisation from the list.
If your name is not on this list, you are not eligible for full funding. However, there may be other ways for you to [apply for funding](#).

[Search](#)

Choose your organisation:

- [Bath Spa University](#)
- [University of Bath](#)

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

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	Frontier industry (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 8	Need or challenge	400 words	No
Question 9	Approach and innovation	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 10	Team and resources	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 11	Market awareness	400 words	No
Question 12	Outcomes and route to market	400 words	No
Question 13	Wider impacts	400 words	No
Question 14	Project management	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 15	Risks	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 16	Added value	400 words	No
Question 17	Costs and value for money	400 words	No

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

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.

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:

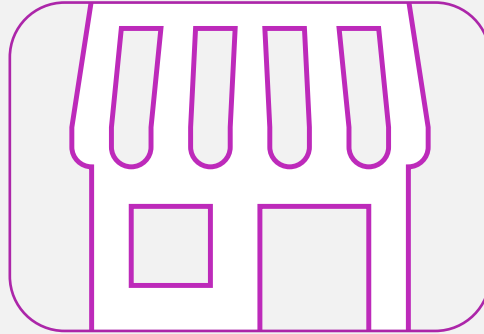
- [Watch Our Impact Management Framework video](#)
- [How is the Project Impact data collected? video](#)

Your Project Cost Categories

View our [Application Finances Instructional Video](#)



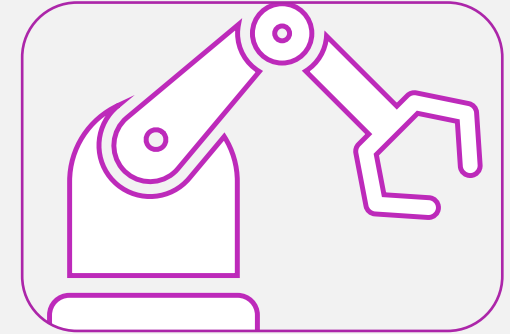
Labour



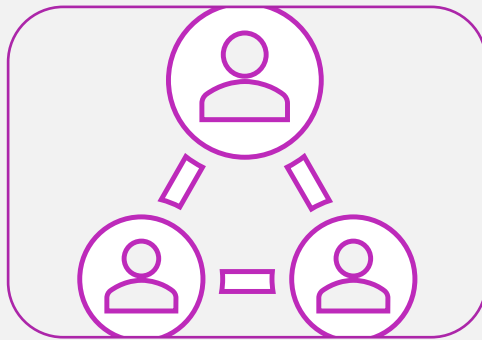
Overheads



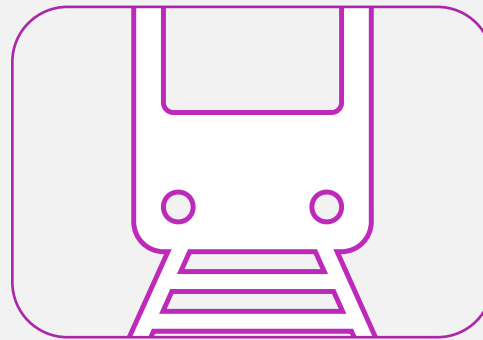
Materials



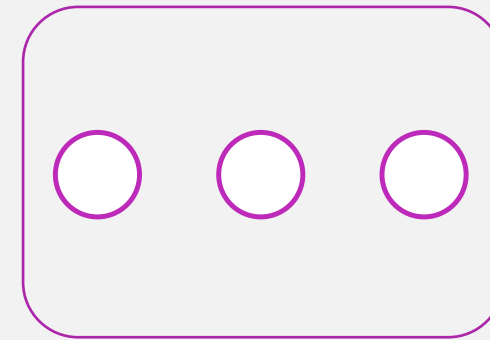
Capital Usage



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 **30%** 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](#)



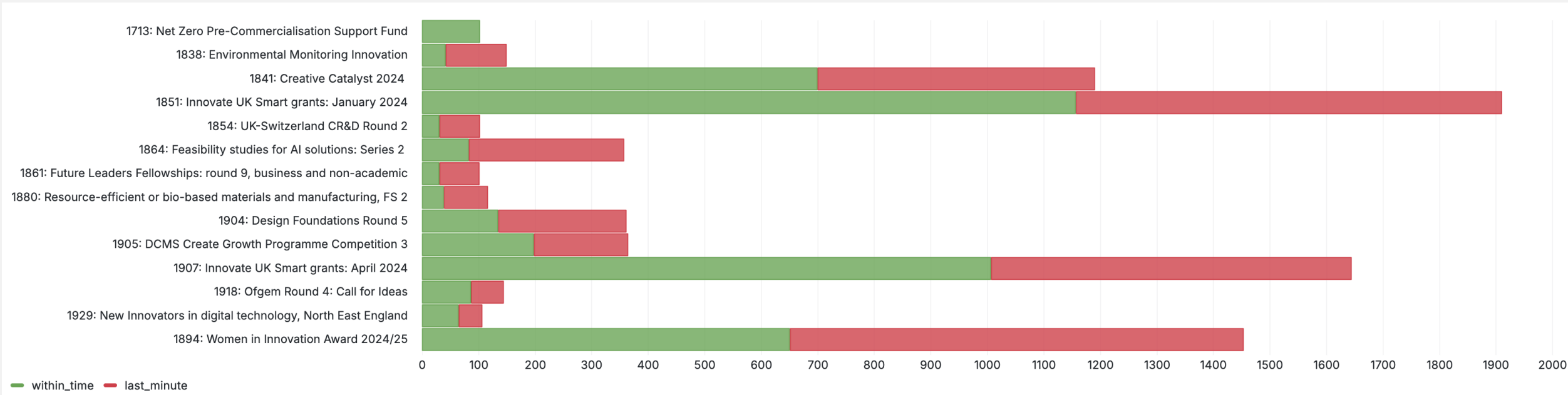
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[Agree and continue](#)

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

Changes for Academics



Academic cost categories

Your project costs

Provide the project costs for XXXXX

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.

All finances need to be provided before this application can be submitted. If there are any finances outstanding at the competition deadline this application will not be submitted into this competition.

Provide key figures from your project costs to allow your partners to see the overall project costs and contribution required from Innovate UK.

[Show all sections](#)

Directly incurred	£0
Show	
Directly allocated	£0
Show	
Indirect costs	£0
Show	

Exceptions £0

[Show](#)

Total project costs £0

Upload a copy of the detailed breakdown of your project finances.

[What should I include?](#)

No file currently uploaded.

[Upload](#)

☒ I confirm that my organisation's research office has approved my project costs based on the TRAC guidelines.

[Mark as complete](#)

Following TRAC guidelines academic cost are captured under the following categories:

- Directly incurred
- Directly allocated
- Indirect costs
- Exceptions

If your project is successful, Innovate UK will fund an academic partner at 80% of FEC. The remaining 20% is not counted as part of your contribution to your project and **must not** be included in the total project costs.

Please note: Costs of PhD students is not eligible for inclusion in research organisation project costs.

Academic cost categories

Total project costs £0

Upload a copy of the detailed breakdown of your project finances.

▶ [What should I include?](#)

You must upload a copy of the detailed breakdown of your project finances.

No file currently uploaded.

[Upload](#)

☐ I confirm that my organisation's research office has approved my project costs based on the TRAC guidelines.

[Mark as complete](#)

[Save and return to project finances](#)

- A mandatory requirement to upload their detailed costs
- Must be a PDF format
- Approved by their research office

Funding Rules



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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

Cyber Action Toolkit

The NCSC has created a free [Cyber Action Toolkit](https://cybertoolkit.service.ncsc.gov.uk/) 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](https://cybertoolkit.service.ncsc.gov.uk/) that gives clear bite-sized actions to protect small businesses, their money and reputation from cyber crime

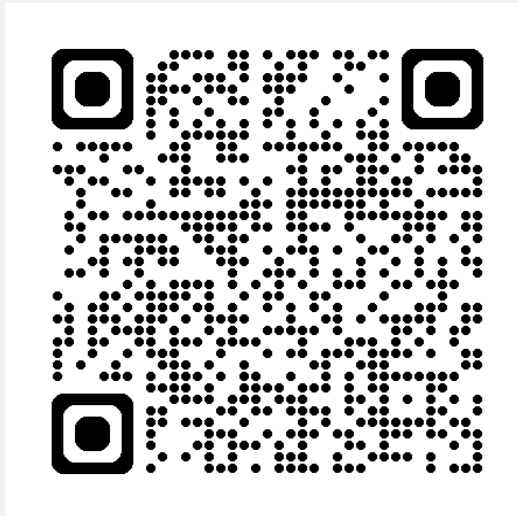
Search “NCSC cyber toolkit” or click here: <https://cybertoolkit.service.ncsc.gov.uk/>



Innovate UK Business Connect

We are a strategic delivery partner to Innovate UK, we combine data, insight and sector expertise to connect people and opportunities, helping ideas move from concept to scale.

Sign up to our monthly mailing list for regular updates on opportunities:



<https://info.ktn-uk.org/p/2VFU-D1W/digital-and-creative>



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



Innovate
UK

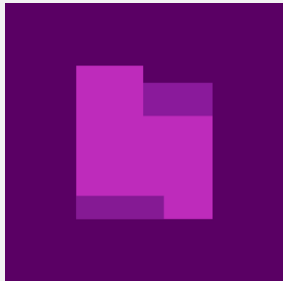


Contact

Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org



Innovate UK

ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk



**Innovate UK
Business Connect**

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



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