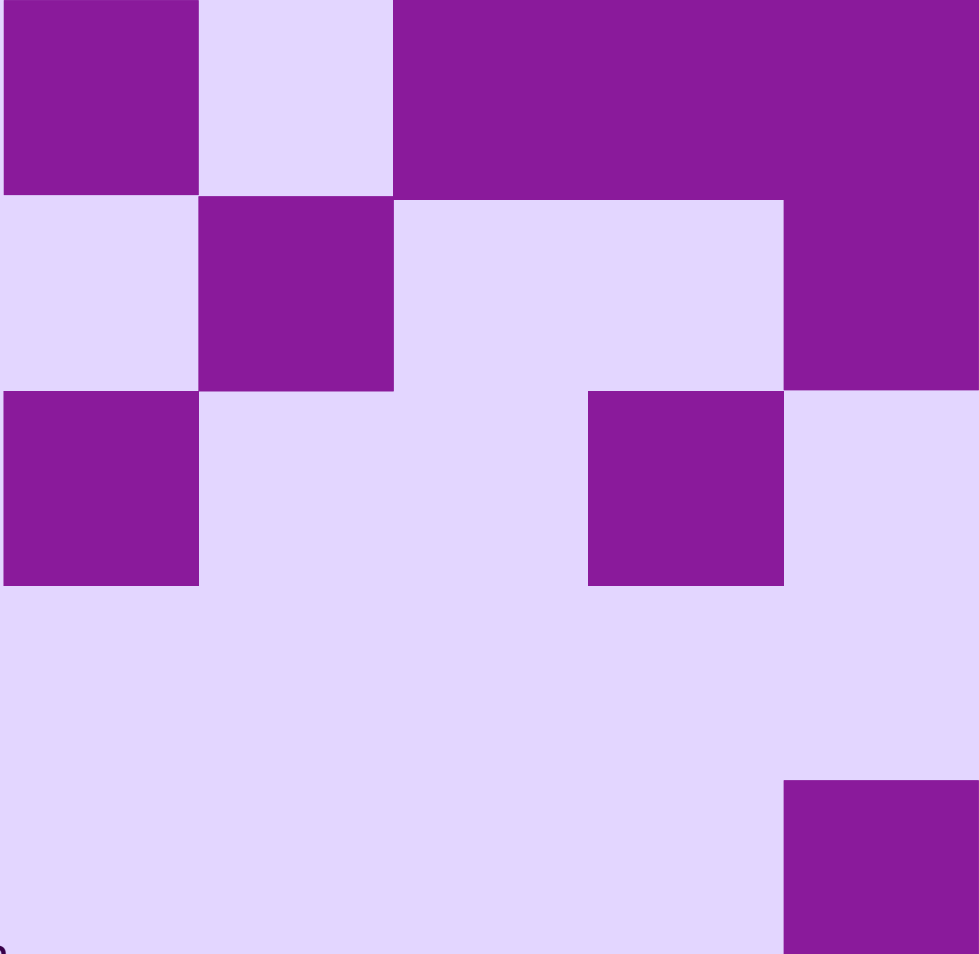




■ INNOVATE UK

■ National Materials Innovation

■ Programme: CR&D Rd1

■ Applicant Briefing

3rd September 2026

The webinar will start at **10:30**

- 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

Dawn Manser

Competition Manager, Innovate UK

Neil Witten

Innovation Lead, Advanced Materials, Innovate UK

Ajay Kapadia

Innovate UK Business Connect

Alastair Hibbins (Q&A Only)

Joint Network Lead, UK Metamaterials Network

- INNOVATE UK
- Turning Breakthrough
- Ideas into Industry Giants

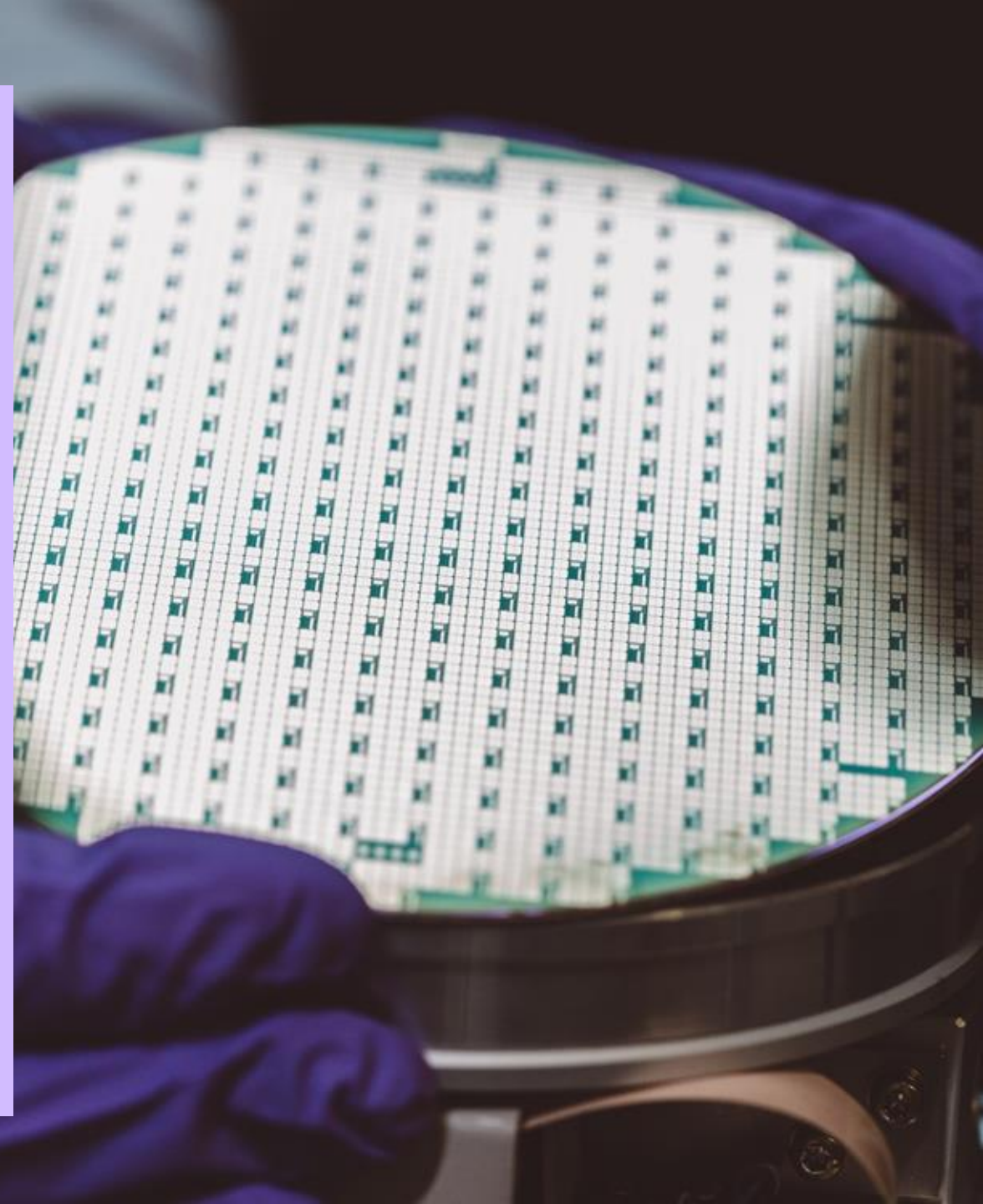
I AGENDA

- 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	01 September 2026
Submission Deadline	28 October 2026 at 11am
Applicants informed	02 December 2026 by 5pm
Project start and end dates	Start by 01 February 2027 End by 31 July 2029

COMPETITION SUMMARY & SCOPE



National Materials Innovation Programme (NMIP)

- Two-year long work to develop the **National Materials Innovation Strategy**, led by the Henry Royce Institute
- Highlights materials innovation opportunities for the next decade across:
 - 6 opportunity themes
 - 19 opportunity workstreams
 - 5 cross-cutting themes
- UK's Modern Industrial Strategy & Advanced Manufacturing Sector Plan (June 25) launch of a new **National Materials Innovation Programme (NMIP)**:
 - high-growth, **application-focused opportunity areas for materials innovation**
 - create networks of key stakeholders and a number of pilots
- Aim to champion a national approach to advanced materials, bolstering defence capabilities
 - an **initial £50 million** to deliver Phase 1 of a new **National Materials Innovation Programme (NMIP)**
 - initiate pilots that accelerate the development and adoption of **strategically important materials**



Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Prioritisation of Themes

On behalf of DSIT, we continue to deliver Phase 1 of the **National Materials Innovation Programme** as announced in the Advanced Manufacturing Sector Plan

- UKRI has had to make strategic choices to ensure the available funding has the **greatest possible demonstration of impact**
- collaborating with the Materials Innovation Leadership Group, we assessed opportunity themes from the National Materials Innovation Strategy (NMIS) against **UK market opportunity, existing capability, time to impact, and the wider funding landscape**
- this has led us to prioritise three high growth opportunity themes, namely **Future Healthcare Solutions, Structural Materials Innovation** (combining priorities across two NMIS themes), and **Power Electronics and Connectivity**, and one strategic opportunity theme, **Metamaterials and Metasurfaces**

We fully recognise the strength and importance of the wider materials innovation community so, where possible, certain future programme elements will remain broad in scope to accommodate these. We continue to look for additional future opportunities.

We remain committed to engaging with, and supporting, innovation across the full breadth of UK materials research and industry.

National Materials Innovation Strategy

Prioritisation of high growth opportunity themes

Energy Solutions

- battery energy storage
- large-scale electrochemical energy generation and conversion (incl. hydrogen)
- hydrogen transport, storage and use
- heat exchange, heat storage and waste heat recovery
- energy harvesting
- advanced nuclear fuels and nuclear test capability

Future Healthcare

- biocompatibility
- bioelectronics

Structural Innovations

- low-carbon construction
- sustainable structural systems – composites
- advanced sustainable metallics
- advanced ceramics

Advanced Surface Technologies and Materials Durability

- surface engineering and tribology (incl. modelling of systems)
- surface treatments
- demanding environments

Next-Generation Electronics, Telecoms & Sensors

- power electronics
- quantum technologies
- connectivity & telecommunications

Consumer Products, Packaging & Specialist Polymers

- sustainable packaging
- speciality polymers (sustainable elastomers)

Combined

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Funding Summary:

- **£12 million** funding for material innovation industrial research projects
- Project duration of **between 18 and 30 months** maximum
- **Grant request** between **£500,000** and **£1,000,000**
- **MUST be collaborative**
- **MUST be business-led**
- **MUST include an SME in the collaboration** and **end user involvement**

Timing Summary:

- Competition Opens: Monday, **1st September 2026** at 11:00am
- Briefing: Wednesday, **3rd September 2026** at 10:30am
- Competition Closes: Wednesday, **28th October 2026** at 11:00am
- Projects start by **1st February 2027**
- Projects end no later than **31st July 2029**

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Your project **MUST**:

- focus primarily on the **materials innovation** and align with one of the **themes and subthemes**
- be a **collaborative industrial research** project
- identify the **specific IS-8 sector and applications** being targeted
- explain the opportunity for the materials innovation to be **applied** and describe any **future barriers and challenges** you foresee to adoption
- demonstrate a **clear route to scale** in the UK
- explain how this project will support business growth and **UK advanced manufacturing**
- **involve at least one named end user** in the project who is **operating within** one of the eight growth driving sectors from the UK's Modern Industrial Strategy (**IS-8) sectors**

You will be asked to choose which theme / subtheme your project aligns with.
It is **your responsibility** to ensure you submit to the correct theme / sub-theme.

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

What do we mean by ‘...materials innovation projects...’?

‘Materials innovation projects’ in the context of this competition are those directed towards:

- **improving functionality of existing** materials for example, metals, composites, ceramics, etc.
- **developing and deploying** completely **new** materials, for example, emergent advanced materials
- **deploying existing** materials in a **novel or innovative way** to address a major technical barrier

...leads to materials which **overcome a technical hurdle / function in an enhanced way**

Outcome may be evidenced through:

- improved performance or efficiency
- bolstering security and competitiveness of UK industry or,
- environmental benefits, for example, sustainability or resource efficiency

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 1: Future Healthcare Solutions

Healthcare materials and material systems are defined as those designed to safely interact with biological systems and deliver improved prevention, diagnosis, monitoring, treatment, rehabilitation or regeneration outcomes. This includes materials intended for use in **medical devices, diagnostics, therapeutic delivery systems, regenerative medicine products and bioelectronic healthcare** technologies.

- a) **Biocompatible and Regenerative Materials** - development, characterisation and validation of biocompatible materials and material systems for medical applications
- b) **Bioelectronic Materials** - development, characterisation and validation of bioelectronic materials and material systems for medical use that directly interface with biological tissues, cells or physiological processes

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 2: Structural Materials Innovation

High value, high-performance structural materials and material systems are defined as those whose primary function is to **bear load, maintain structural integrity and deliver reliable performance throughout their operational life in demanding environments**. This includes multifunctional materials where structural integrity is the critical enabling function. They are deployed in applications where **failure, degradation or loss of performance** would have significant economic, operational, safety or environmental consequences.

- a) **Sustainability** – includes material innovations that improve resource efficiency, reuse, repair, remanufacture, recovery and recycling while maintaining mechanical integrity, durability and long service life.
- b) **Surface Engineering** - includes material innovations in coatings, surface treatments, tribological solutions and corrosion protection technologies that enhance the durability, reliability and operational lifetime.
- c) **Design and Deployment** - includes innovations that improve modelling, qualification, manufacture, inspection, monitoring and deployment of structural materials and material systems, enabling more predictable performance and improved resistance to degradation throughout the asset lifecycle.
- d) **Extreme Environments** - includes development and refinement of structural and multifunctional material systems capable of maintaining mechanical integrity and performance under extreme or combined extreme conditions, including thermal, radiation, corrosive, high pressure, wear and fatigue environments.

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 2: Structural Materials Innovation

The following structural material classes are within scope:

- speciality steels, such as high strength, corrosion resistant, wear resistant and high temperature steels
- advanced non-ferrous metals and high performance metallic alloys
- fibre reinforced structural composites where fibre reinforcement provides the primary load bearing function
- structural and wear resistant technical ceramics
- advanced structural glasses and glass ceramics
- advanced concretes and geopolymers
- high performance structural engineering polymers used in load bearing applications

Only the material classes listed above are in scope for Theme 2

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 3: Power Electronics and Connectivity

Electronic, photonic and communication materials and material systems are defined as those that enable the **generation, conversion, transmission, processing, sensing or thermal management of electrical, optical or electromagnetic signals**, delivering enhanced performance, efficiency, functionality or reliability in advanced electronic and communication technologies.

- a) **Wide and Ultra Wide Bandgap Materials** - wide and ultra wide bandgap semiconductor materials and associated substrate, packaging and thermal management material systems, enabling higher voltage, higher temperature and higher frequency operation, together with improved power density and energy efficiency compared with conventional silicon-based technologies.
- b) **Advanced Connectivity Materials** - materials innovations for advanced connectivity and communication systems, enabling enhanced energy efficiency, signal quality, bandwidth, spectrum utilisation, capacity and coverage across next generation communication and sensing technologies, including 5G, 6G, optical, RF, infrared (IR) and radar applications.

Relevant materials and material systems may include semiconductor, photonic, optoelectronic, dielectric, electromagnetic and thermal management materials, such as silicon carbide (SiC), gallium nitride (GaN), diamond, gallium oxide, integrated photonic materials, radio frequency (RF) and microwave materials, low loss dielectric materials, thermal interface materials and advanced heat spreading materials.

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 4: Metamaterials and metasurfaces

Focused on the **development, scale-up, commercialisation and adoption of metamaterials and metasurfaces**, enabling growth, productivity and dual use opportunities across strategically important sectors (IS-8)

- a) **Future Telecommunications and Advanced Connectivity** – metamaterial and metasurface innovations enabling enhanced connectivity, communication and sensing capabilities through improved signal control, bandwidth, spectrum utilisation, coverage, energy efficiency and system performance.
- b) **Convergent Electronic-Photonic Technologies** - metamaterial and metasurface innovations enabling enhanced integration and functionality across semiconductor, electronic and photonic technologies, supporting next-generation computing, sensing, communication and optoelectronic systems.
- c) **Thermal, Acoustic and Mechanical Metamaterials** - enabling novel or enhanced control of thermal, acoustic, structural or mechanical behaviour across a range of length scales.
- d) **Energy Security and Net Zero** - metamaterial and metasurface innovations enabling improved performance, efficiency, control or resilience in renewable energy generation, energy storage, power transmission and broader net zero technologies.
- e) **Healthcare** - metamaterial and metasurface innovations enabling advances in healthcare technologies, including biosensing, biomonitoring, imaging, diagnostics, biomedical devices, stimuli-responsive systems, advanced prosthetics and acoustic management in clinical environments.

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Theme 4: Metamaterials and metasurfaces

We recognise that the metamaterials and metasurfaces theme has potential overlap with some of the other three prioritised high growth opportunity themes, as guidance:

If your innovation is built or based upon a metamaterial or metasurface technology then you must apply under theme 4

Projects must demonstrate they meet the definition of a metamaterial as developed by the metamaterials community (UK Metamaterials Network):

- a metamaterial is a 3D structure with a response or function due to the collective effect of meta-atom elements that is not possible to achieve conventionally with any individual constituent material
- a metasurface is a 2D version of a metamaterial where the structural elements are confined to a 2D plane

Note: The response or function of a metamaterial results from the ensemble effects of designed and engineered meta-atom elements. These can take many forms, for example the response or function may be electromagnetic; photonic, RF and microwave, terahertz (THz), acoustic; audio, ultrasonic, vibrational magnetic, mechanical or structural, thermal or chemical

End User Involvement

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Guidance

The named end user is an organisation, further **downstream in the supply chain**, that will **use or directly benefit from the materials innovation**.

Examples of end users include OEMs, Tier 1 suppliers and other organisations. The involvement of the end user can be in the form of, but is not limited to:

- **being on a project advisory board**
- **being a non-funded project collaborator or a funded project collaborator**

The end user must have **a clear, defined role within the project governance or work plan**. The following **will not be accepted** as end users:

- RTOs
- academics and academic institutions
- consultants and consultancies

Government organisations or regulators can act as an end user **where you provide a clear justification**, for example, where they act as a system integrator or service provider for the materials innovation.

End User Involvement

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

Guidance

In earlier NMIP feasibility study competitions we have asked for letters of support from end users. Letters of support are not required / are insufficient for this competition.

In this competition, end user involvement cannot be demonstrated solely through written evidence of a business relationship, such as:

- letters of support
- emails, Teams messages or other forms of electronic communication between project partners and third parties
- purchase orders, invoices or other documents that do not directly relate to the project application
- heads of agreement, memorandum of understanding, joint development agreements, non-disclosure agreements, letters of intent, supply agreements, commercial contracts or formal partnership agreements

Competition Scope

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

We will not fund projects that:

- do not align with any of **the themes and sub-themes listed** in the specific themes section
- are focused on the **development or application of digital tools and technologies to support or enable materials innovation**, for example, AI or machine learning (ML) tools
- do not **name and describe an end user and their role** within the project
- do not **demonstrate the IS-8 sector being targeted and applications** within the chosen sector
- do not show a **clear and realistic sector and application opportunity** for later adoption
- are focused on chemical or raw **materials synthesis**, rather than adoption of materials innovations in an end application
- are focused solely on the defence sector, but we **will recognise dual use material innovations** providing the **primary focus is on civil** applications
- are **focused on enabling areas** such as regulations, educational resources, behavioural science, policy, skills and relationships

We cannot fund projects that are:

- dependent on export performance, for example, giving a subsidy to a baker on the condition that it exports a certain quantity of bread to another country
- dependent on domestic inputs usage, for example, giving a subsidy to a baker on the condition that it uses 50% UK flour in their product

.....and finally.....

National Materials Innovation Programme: Collaborative R&D Rd1

- a) **Do NOT** include any website addresses (URLs) in your answers...this is a **waste of your word count** and **they will not be viewed!**
- b) **Do** understand the difference between your **grant request** (between £500k to £1,000,000) and your **total eligible project costs** (= the total cost of your project including you and any partners contributions).
- c) **Do** recognise the difference between 'your project **SHOULD...**' and 'your project **MUST...**'
- d) **Do** respect the finance limits (failure will mean your project will be automatically ineligible):
 - Subcontractors are allowed in this competition and are **limited to no more than 30% of the project's total eligible costs**.
 - Research organisations undertaking non-economic activity as part of the project **can share up to 30% of the total eligible project costs**.

1000



Dr Neil Witten CEng FIMMM
Innovation Lead - Advanced Materials

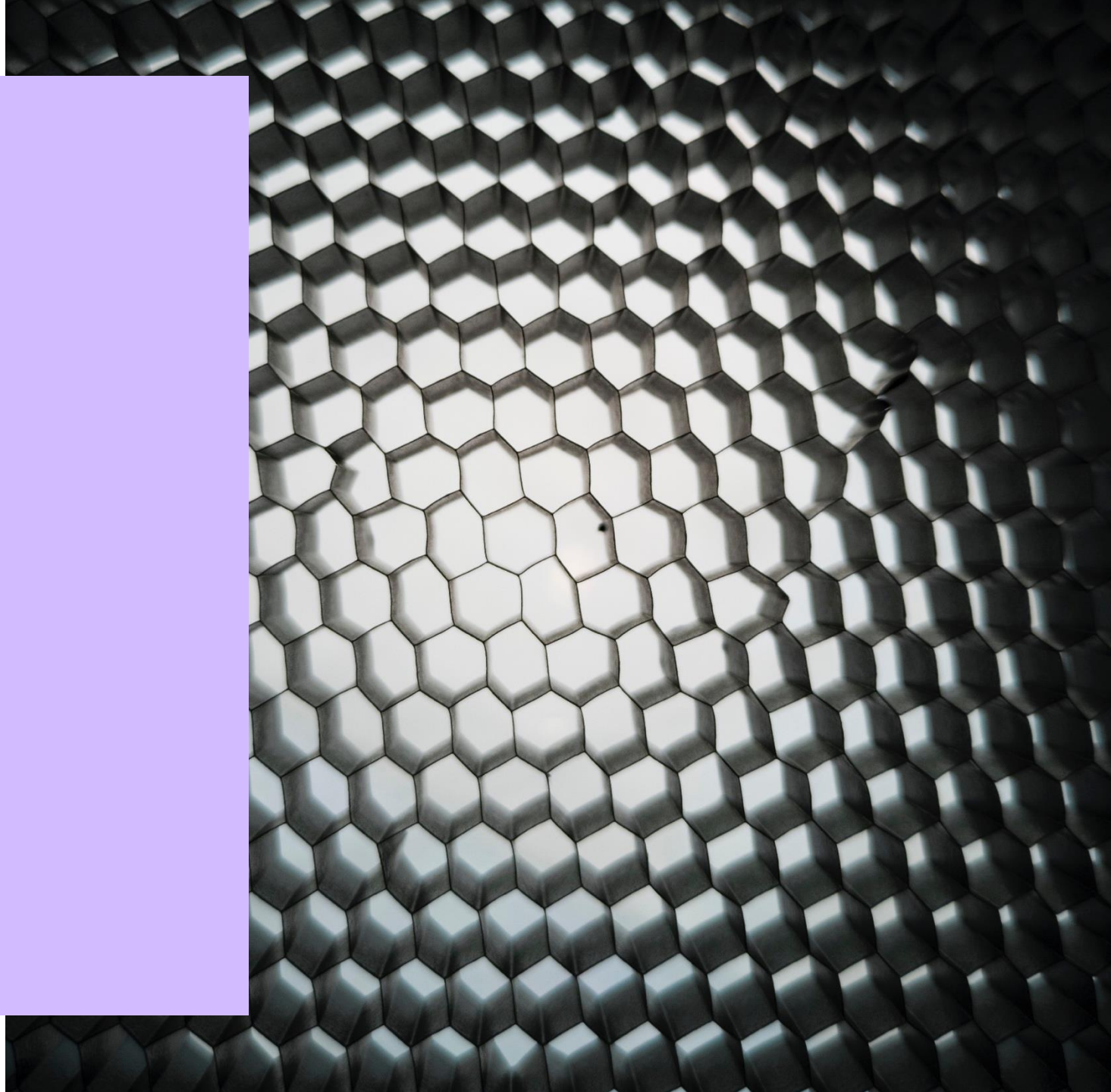
neil.witten@iuk.ukri.org

 @neilwitten



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UK**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- YOUR PROJECT

Your project must:

- have a grant funding request of between £500,000 and £1 million
- last between 18 and 30 months
- start by 1 February 2027
- end by 31 July 2029

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- 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.

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, including the lead, 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 organisations who do not claim any funding for their work on the project. Their costs will be covered from their own resources. These can include UK, EU and other non-UK organisations. Non-UK partners are permitted to carry out project work from within their home countries and exploit the results outside the UK.

Where non-funded partners have been invited to the application on IFS, their costs will count towards the total eligible project costs.

Subcontractors

Subcontractors are allowed in this competition and are limited to no more than 30% of the project's total eligible costs.

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 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 eligible 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.

If a business is not leading any application, it can collaborate in any number of applications.

An academic institution, charity, not for profit, public sector organisation, or research and technology organisation can collaborate on any number of applications.

Applications that do not meet these requirements will be made ineligible, in order of the most recent submission being made ineligible first.

PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS

This competition does allow resubmissions

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 and Research organisations

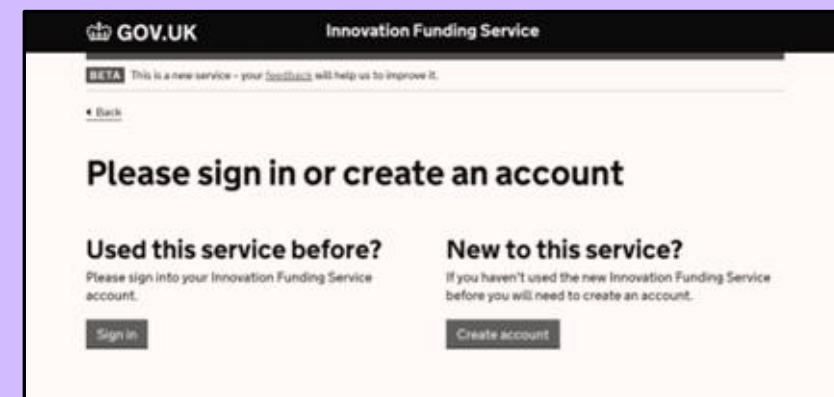
Use Companies House lookup using your company number. This facilitates our checks later if you are successful.

Academic Institutions

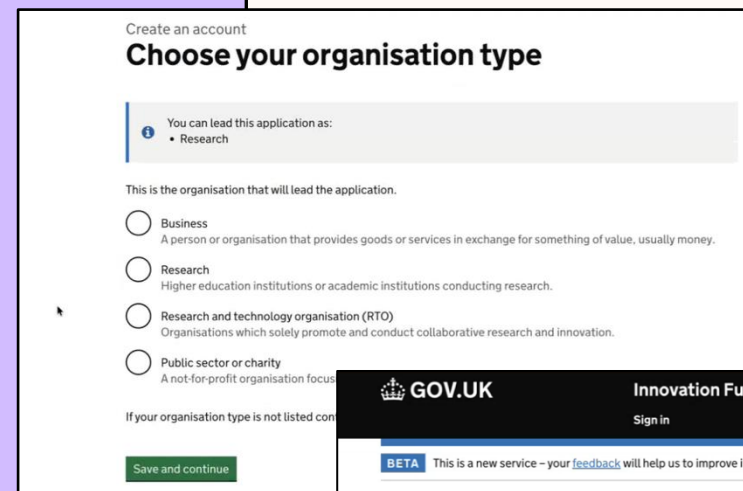
Are asked to enter their name and select from the list of organisations presented

If your organisation is yet to be formed

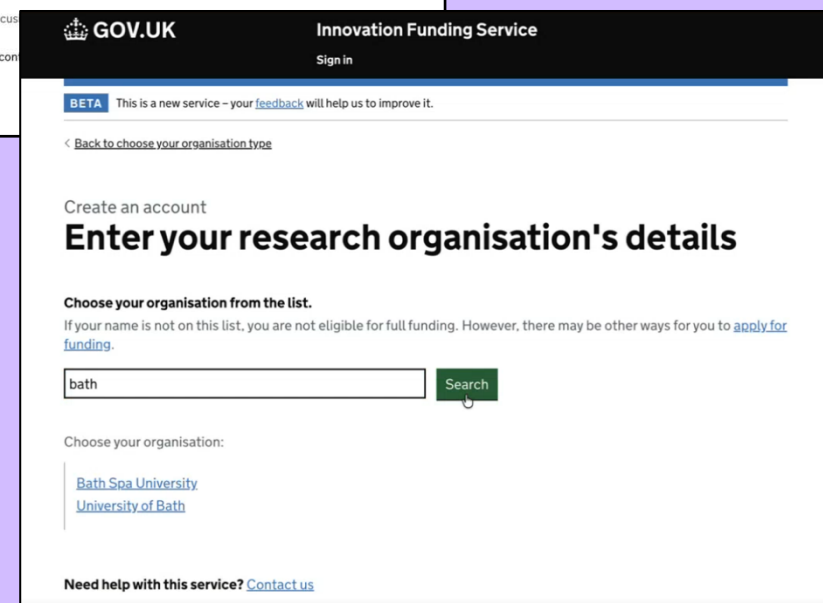
You will need to enter your information manually, should you be successful, you will need to be a registered organisation to receive funding.



The screenshot shows the top of the GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service page. It includes the GOV.UK logo and the service name. A 'BETA' banner indicates it's a new service. The main heading is 'Please sign in or create an account'. Below this, there are two columns: 'Used this service before?' with a 'Sign in' button, and 'New to this service?' with a 'Create account' button.



This screenshot shows the 'Create an account' section titled 'Choose your organisation type'. It states 'You can lead this application as:' with a radio button selected for 'Research'. Below, it lists four options with radio buttons: 'Business', 'Research', 'Research and technology organisation (RTO)', and 'Public sector or charity'. Each option has a brief description. A 'Save and continue' button is at the bottom.



This screenshot shows the 'Create an account' section titled 'Enter your research organisation's details'. It prompts the user to 'Choose your organisation from the list.' and provides a search bar with the text 'bath' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, it lists 'Bath Spa University' and 'University of Bath' as suggestions. A 'Need help with this service? Contact us' link is at the bottom.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Unscored questions

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Applicant location	400 words	No
Question 2	Animal testing	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	Permits and licences	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	International Collaboration	400 words	No
Question 5	Export licence	Multiple choice	No
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation	400 words	No
Question 7	Project Theme	Multiple choice	No
Question 8	End User Involvement	400 words	No

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Scored questions

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 9	Need or challenge	400 words	No
Question 10	Approach and innovation	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 11	Team and resources	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 12	Market awareness	400 words	No
Question 13	Outcomes and route to market	400 words	No
Question 14	Wider impacts	400 words	No
Question 15	Project management	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 16	Risks	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 17	Added value	400 words	No
Question 18	Costs and value for money	400 words	No

NATIONAL SECURITY AND INVESTMENT ACT

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](#)

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

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

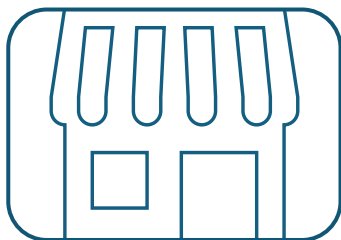
For more information:

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

YOUR PROJECT COST CATEGORIES



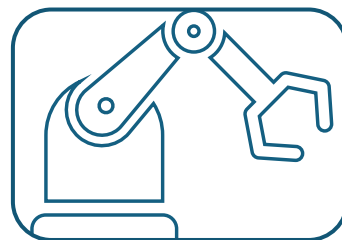
Labour



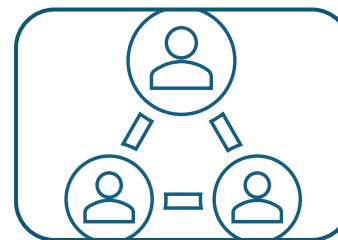
Overheads



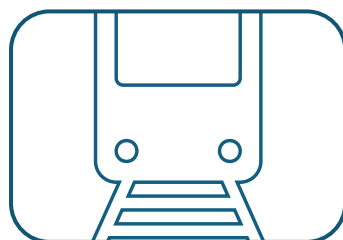
Materials



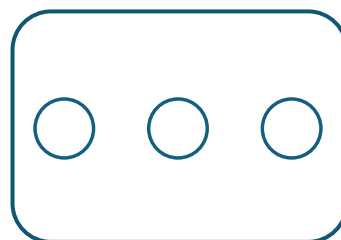
Capital Usage



Subcontractors



Travel &
Subsistence



Other

View our [Application Finances Instructional Video](#)

YOUR PROJECT FINANCES

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

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



Innovate
UK

CHECKING YOUR FINANCES ARE COMPLETE

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

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

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](#)



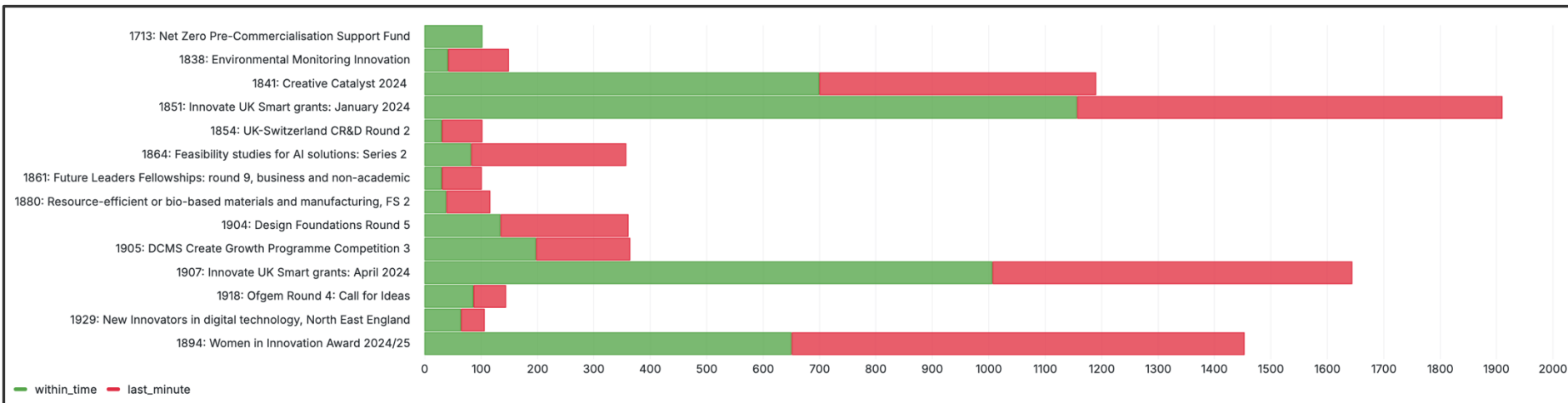
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[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 click 'Submit application'

Terms and conditions

Open all

Award terms and conditions

✓ Complete +

Submit application

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

USE OF AI IN APPLICATIONS

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

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.

Your project costs

Provide the project costs for 'Berry Gardens Growers Ltd'
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](#)

ACADEMIC COST CATEGORIES

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

Total project costs £0

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

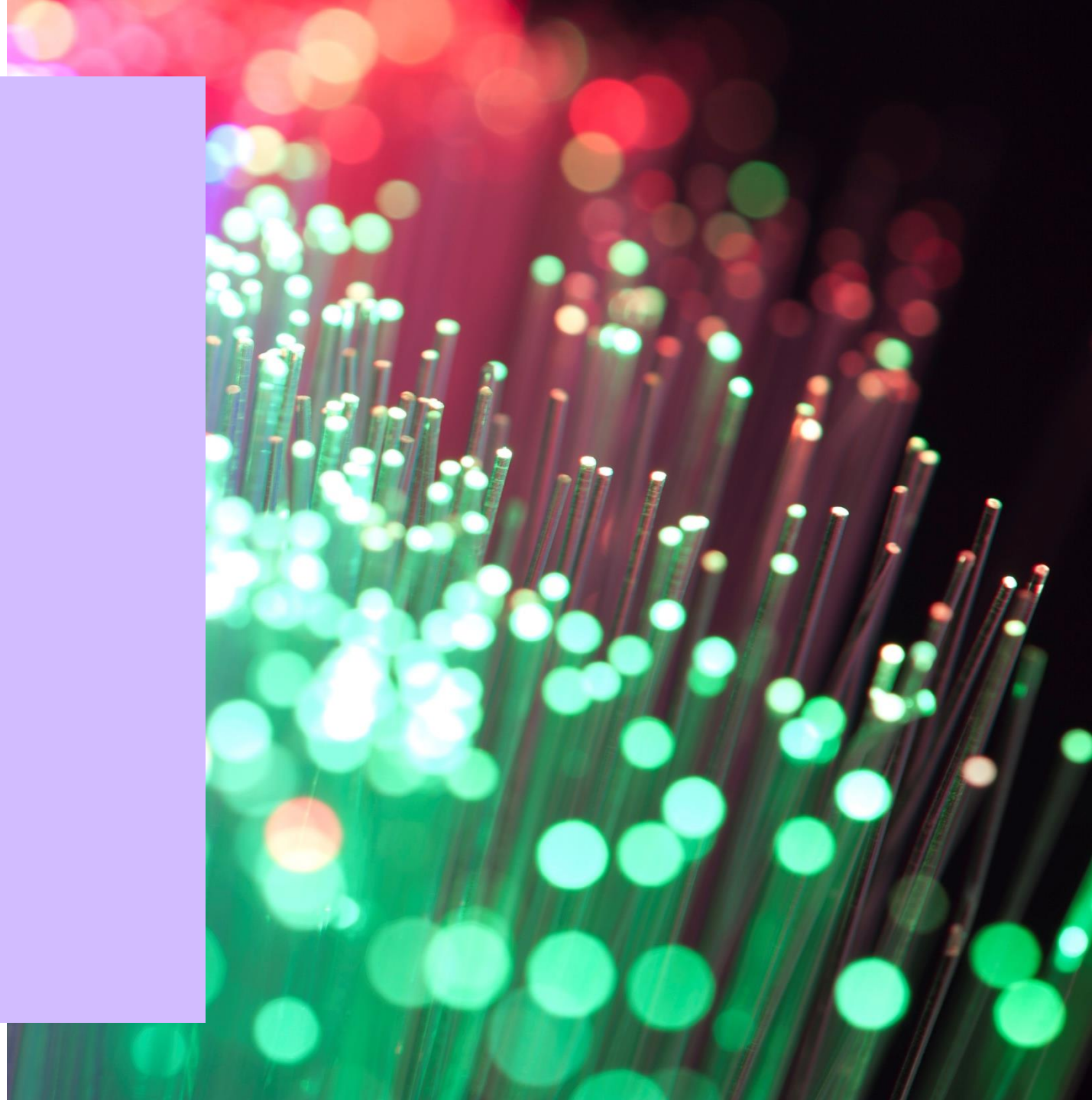
[▶ What should I include?](#)

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

No file currently uploaded.

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

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 **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](#)

Research, Development and Innovation Streamlined Subsidy Scheme

- Designed by Government to award subsidies to enterprises if they met defined criteria contained within the [Scheme](#)
- 3 categories available please check the competition you are applying for applicable categories
 - Feasibility Studies
 - Industrial Research and Experimental Development
 - Small and Medium Sized Enterprise (SME) Research, Development and Innovation Support
- When submitting an application as part of our due diligence you will be asked to declare any previous awards made in the 'applicable period' to ensure limits are not breached.
 - 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

Category 2: Industrial Research and Experimental Development Projects

For Industrial Research projects, you could get funding for your eligible project costs of:

- up to 70% if you are a micro or small organisation
- up to 60% if you are a medium-sized organisation
- up to 50% if you are a large organisation

Eligible costs please refer to the competition to which you are applying.

For a detailed definition of these research categories see [guidance document section 14.3.](#)

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 SET UP



PROJECT SET UP

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

ACCEPTED BUSINESS BANK ACCOUNTS

- SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- Advance Payment Solutions (Part of Cashplus Ltd)
- Alica 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 CANNOT 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.

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



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.

Innovate UK Business Connect

Home of the UK's
innovation networks

Accelerating innovation and
delivering real-world impact

Innovate UK Business Connect

We are the home of the UK's innovation networks, connecting businesses, researchers, investors and partners to accelerate innovation.

As a strategic delivery partner to Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), we combine data, insight and sector expertise to connect people and opportunities, helping ideas move from concept to scale.



We are part of UKRI,
working to advance
knowledge, improve lives,
and create growth



Innovate
UK

We are a strategic delivery
partner to Innovate UK,
working to accelerate
innovation



Innovate
UK

Business
Connect

We build the trusted
connections, collaborations
and intelligence that
accelerate business
innovation for the nation

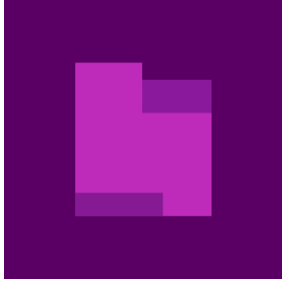


Innovate
UK

Support for this Competition

- Drop in Clinic 1: Friday 11th Sept: 10:30 – 12:00
- Drop in Clinic 2: Weds 7th Oct: 10:30 – 12:00
- B2BMatch Collaboration Platform
<https://www.b2match.com/e/nmip26-crd>
- Attendee list to this Briefing Webinar
- Light touch proposal review
<https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/people/ajay-kapadia/>

| CONTACT



Innovate UK

ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk



Innovate UK Business Connect

[https://iuk-business-
connect.org.uk/](https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/)



Innovate UK Business Growth

www.iukbg.ukri.org

Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org





■ INNOVATE UK

■ Thank you