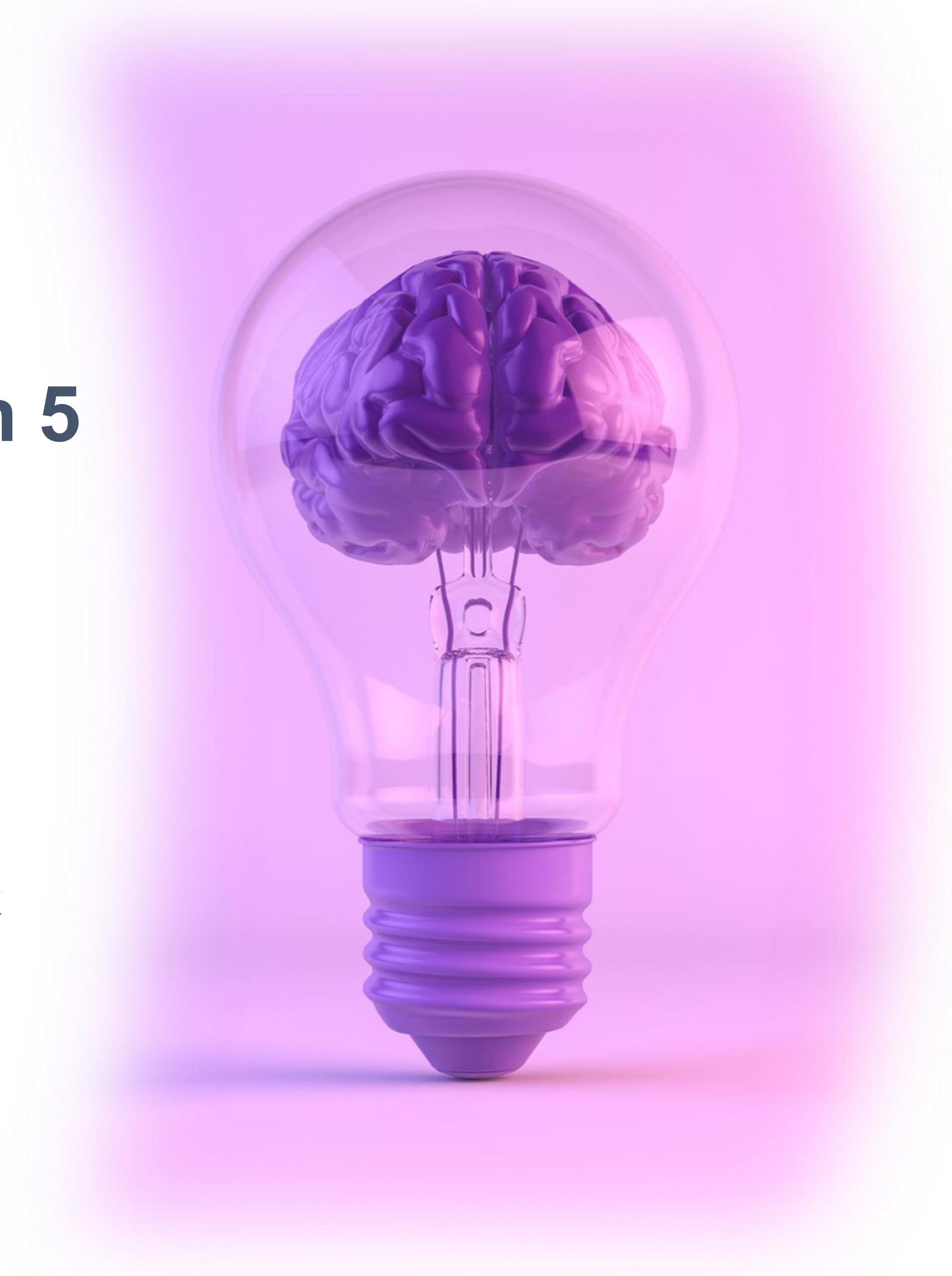
DRIVE35 Scale-up Fund Drawdown 5

Applicant Briefing

Date: 13/08/2026

- This briefing is pre-recorded. A copy of the slides and the recording link will be made available on IFS.
- For more information on the competition process, please click here to access our YouTube channel.



Welcome and Introduction

ALEX WOOD
HEAD OF PRODUCT, APC UK

JAMES RAYNER
COMPETITION MANAGER, IUK

Agenda

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

Key Dates

Timeline	Date
Competition Opened	**10th August 2026**
Submission Deadline	**4th November 2026** at **11am**
Applicants informed	**17th February 2027** by **5pm**
Project start and end dates	Start from **1st June 2027** End by **31st March 2030**

UKRI Innovate UK

DRIVE35 Scale-up Fund Drawdown 5

Competition Summary & Scope

Alex Wood, Head of Product – APC UK

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

Driving Research and Investment in Vehicle Electrification (DRIVE35)

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

£4.0bn in grant funding delivered over ten years in partnership with the Department for Business, Innovation, Science and Trade, Innovate UK, and the Advanced Propulsion Centre UK

3 Strategic Funding Priorities

Supporting INNOVATION

Concept design to late-stage R&D

£150K up to £25m available, project duration from **12 to 36 months**, depending on selected stream

Accelerating SCALE-UP

Validation and process delivery

£150k up to £20m available, project duration from **12 to 46 months**, depending on selected stream

Enabling TRANSFORMATION

Industrial deployment at scale

Vehicle Assembly
Supply Chain Development

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

DRIVE35

Department for Business & Trade

ENABLING
TRANSFORMATION

Automotive Transformation Fund

ACCELERATING
SCALE-UP

Scale-up Fund

Feasibility Studies

SUPPORTING
INNOVATION

Collaborate

Demonstrate

Mobilise

DRIVE35 Scale-up Fund: Overview

The Scale-up Fund is to support manufacturing facility and process development at pilot scale or demonstration scale. These projects will enable businesses to validate manufacturing capability and commercial viability, achieving market entry at the targeted production volume.

You will need to demonstrate your readiness to secure co-investment for this scale up project, whether from parent companies, corporate sponsors, institutional investors or lenders.

Scaling your manufacturing from R&D to commercialisation

Stage	Concept	Lab scale / workshop	Pilot line (low-volume manufacture)	Demonstration line (mid-volume manufacture)	Industrial plant (high-volume manufacture)
Description	Innovation of new tech concepts	Initial prototypes from manual lab or workshop	Initial production line	Single FOAK line representing scaled-up workflow	Full scale manufacturing
Flexibility and output	Complete flexibility, no process	Very high flexibility, manual process	High flexibility, low volume output	Medium flexibility and volume output	Lower flexibility, very high output
Development stage output	Early prototypes	Research to deliver prototypes and show product attributes	Process development to pilot initial critical process steps	Process development to demonstrate production at rate with QC	Customer product at full production scale
Commercial milestone delivered	Proof of Concept	Paid trials / 1st off's	1st adoptor programmes	Secure increasing offtake	Volume programmes
Scale-up Fund Scope	-	-	Yes	Yes	ATF

Introducing Scale-up Fund

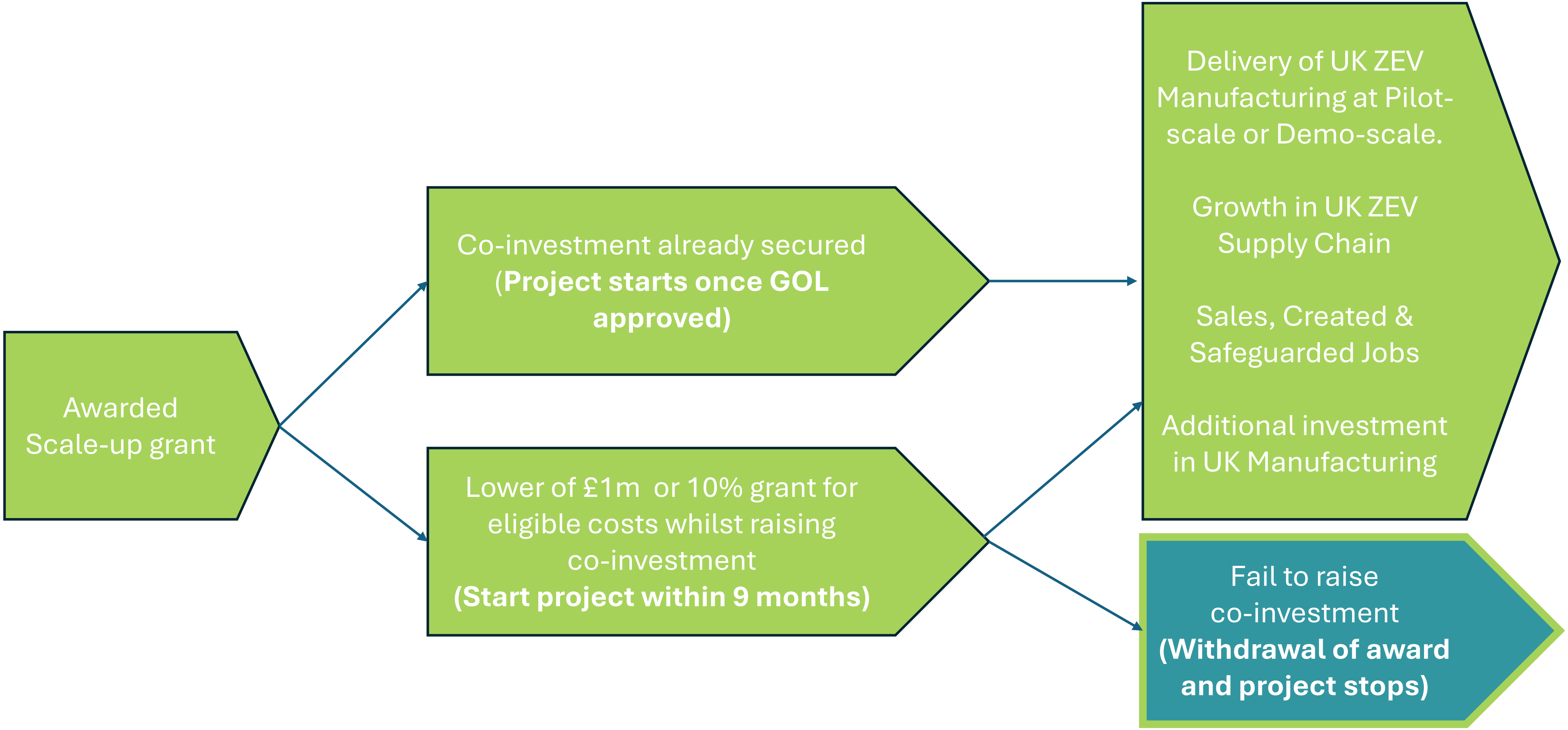
Up to

£20m

in grant funding

- Single applicants may apply
- £2.5m minimum grant request per project
- £5m minimum total project cost
- Support manufacturing facility and process development at pilot scale or demonstration scale.
- Projects will enable businesses to validate manufacturing capability and commercial viability, from the project outcomes achieving market entry at the targeted production volume.
- Up to 50% grant if you are a micro or small or medium sized organisation; and up to 30% grant if you are a large organisation.
- Secure co-investment of 2x grant value within a **9-month** period (extendable to 12 month) following award of grant offer.

Scale-up Projects: Target Outcomes



Scale-up Project: Eligibility

The Scale-up project under consideration, must:

- Implement scale up in the UK auto sector, however, exploitation to other sectors is welcomed.
- Single or Consortia led – subcontractors are allowed.
- Carry out project work in the UK with significant justification for overseas activities.
- Exploit the outcomes in the UK
- Grant funding request between £2.5M to £20M with minimum project eligible costs of £5M.
- A maximum of 30% grant funded for a large organisation, or 50% for an SME.
- Meet the start and end date requirements set out on IFS
- Project must make an industrial contribution of 3.5% of any grant received to support the running costs of APC UK

Impacts and outcomes for UK businesses

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

GROWTH: Support growth, transition and resilience of the UK's automotive supply chain, increasing capability whilst improving productivity, efficiency and competitiveness. This may also include growth within the UK Supply Chain supporting the scale-up project.

STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGY: Contribute to the UK's strategic aims and priorities, such as the HMG's Industrial Strategy as well as the Automotive Council's Roadmaps and Strategic Technology areas.

FACILITY INVESTMENT: Creation or conversion of UK manufacturing facilities which support the transition to zero-emission vehicles, achieving market entry at the targeted production volume.

IMPACTS: Enabling of substantial investment, creation and/or safeguarding of high-value jobs, increase of sales, together resulting in a lasting economic benefit to the UK.

REPORTING OUTPUTS: At project closure, deliver a Closeout Review and Demonstration Event to demonstrate the outcomes and deliverables of the Scale-up investment.

What will a strong Scale-up Project application consist of?

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Demonstrated **Business Capability** by organisational strength of the Leadership Team to deliver project outcomes and readiness for growth.

Strong Value Proposition evidenced by readiness to scale. Demonstration of TRL 6-7 / MRL 5-6 at the start of the project.

Understanding of the **Market Opportunity** and **Competitive Environment**.

Demonstration of a **Strong Commercial Plan** including market entry strategy and growth supported by realistic sales projections and scale.

Clearly defined **Plan to Deliver** Scale-up including defined project objectives, project team, risk register, project costs, and timing plan. Any gaps should have clear mitigation plans.

Operational Growth Plan including requirements from the wider Supply Chain especially where new suppliers will be on-boarded to support scale up.

Financial Business Case including readiness for Investment where required to support Scale-up.

Project Impact including created and safeguarded jobs, and future UK investment requirements for growth.

Scope of Scale-up projects for zero-emission vehicle technology

As previously stated, the Scale-up fund aims to support the development of manufacturing readiness at pilot scale or demonstration scale, achieving market entry at the targeted production volume. The project must include the activities required to design, build, and commission a pilot-scale or demonstration-scale manufacturing facility.

Examples of in-scope activities include:

- **Manufacturing facility planning and engineering**, including detailed facility or process planning and engineering, finalisation of site selection, fabrication and construction work
- **Development of the Production Line**, including detailed production line design, equipment integration with site infrastructure, specification, procurement and purchasing, equipment installation and commissioning
- **Process development** including development of quality control and quality assurance process and equipment, and APQP (Advanced Product Quality and Planning) activities required, up to and including production launch
- **Technology implementation** to enable efficient and effective production processes
- **Training**
- **Product development to support 'Design for Manufacture',** where this enables your technology or product to be adapted for your target scale manufacturing
- **Development of UK supply chain** for your target production scale
- **Testing, Validation and Verification** of components and systems which are manufactured as part of this scale-up project
- **Dissemination** to enable market engagement and market feedback
- **Limited Commercial Activity** during the active phase of this project

Technology Scope of Scale-up projects

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

This competition fund aims to support the manufacturing scale-up of strategically important technologies for on board vehicle applications in one or more of the following areas:

- **Electrical energy storage:**
  - Development of batteries, supercapacitors, their components, management, and integrated systems
- **Electric machines and associated driveline**
- **Power electronics:**
  - Including Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X)
- **Internal combustion engine (ICE) for off-road applications:**
  - We will fund project proposals that support a transition to zero emissions, utilising non-fossil fuels,
- **Lightweighting:**
  - Materials and manufacturing processes
- **Fuel-cell systems:**
  - Including associated balance of plant
- **Hydrogen storage and management systems**
- **Zero-emission vehicle assembly**

Technology Scope of Scale-up projects

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

Within the technology scope outlined on previous slide, a project can include:

- **Upstream supply chain for the above technologies, including Raw materials, Component manufacturing, Sub-assembly manufacturing.**
- **Circularity and Design for Disassembly: Projects delivering manufacturing systems which enable the disassembly, remanufacturing, recovery, and reuse of materials.**
- **The deployment (but not principally the development) of technologies to enable productivity and cost-competitiveness across the relevant aspects of applicable manufacturing operations in any of the following areas:**
    - Digital Transformation: Integration of digital tools within the manufacturing process. Such as the use of AI, digital twins, and Internet of Things (IoT).
    - Manufacturing process decarbonisation: Processes that use renewable energy sources or innovations enabling reduced energy consumption within manufacturing processes including capture and reuse.
    - Lean Manufacturing: Implementation of innovative lean principles to improve efficient use of materials used in processes, reduce their environmental impact and improve efficiency including the use of advanced automation techniques.

Projects we will not fund

We will not fund projects:

- Requesting grant greater than 50% of total project costs for an SME or 30% for a large business.
- Not focused primarily on developing and validating manufacturing processes and assets
- Not aligned with the UK Industrial Strategy
- Do not have a robust future plan to enter the zero-emission vehicle supply chain
- Not of future benefit to the automotive sector
- Focused on small personal mobility applications such as e-Scooters, e-Bikes, or other low-powered mobility devices
- Do not lead to significant business or production scale up and expansion
- Focused on technologies or processes which are too technologically immature to scale with increasing market demand
- Focus on fossil fueled internal combustion technology
- Focused on fuel retail or wholesale fuel supply
- Focused on the development or production of low-carbon fuels
- Focused on the production of hydrogen
- Focused on off-vehicle charging infrastructure
- Focused on energy retail or wholesale energy supply
- Focused primarily on the development of digital or data technologies
- Focused on speculative site enabling projects

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

Portfolio approach to selection

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

We want to fund a variety of manufacturing scale-up projects across different:

- Technologies
- Vehicle applications
- Markets
- Technological maturities
- Organisational sizes

All of which are aligned to policy and regulatory deadlines enabling automotive transformation including the transition to fully zero-emission vehicle manufacturing. As such, selection of funded projects may be determined by the fit of the project to the competition portfolio. We call this a portfolio approach.

Application questions

Project Details and Application Questions Overview

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

Project Details

Application Team		
Application Details		
Research Category		
Project Summary	100 words	- informs assessment
Public Description	100 words	- for future communications
Scope	200 words	- suitability for funding

Not Scored Questions

Q1 Applicant Location
Q2 Animal Testing
Q3 Permits and Licenses
Q4 International Collaboration
Q5 Export licence
Q6 Trusted Research and Innovation
Q7 Your Business: Impact Track Record
Q8 Your Business: Your Current Business

Scored Questions

Q9 Market opportunity & competitive environment
Q10 Customer value proposition
Q11 Near term market entry strategy, sales projections & growth plan
Q12 Technical & manufacturing readiness for Scale-Up
Q13 Manufacturing growth plan & objectives

Scored Questions

Q14 Risks and mitigations
Q15 Project costs and justifications
Q16 Supply chain management
Q17 Organisational readiness
Q18 Leadership team
Q19 Business expansion investment plan
Q20 Financial business case

Scored Questions

ECONOMIC APPRAISAL
Q21 Value for Money Workbook Template
Q22 Additionality, Case for Intervention
Q23 Investment in the UK
Q24 UK Jobs
Q25 Emissions Reductions*
Q26 Greenhouse Gas Reductions*
Q27 Wider Automotive Supply Chain
Q28 R&D Spillovers

*refer to optional sections of the VfM workbook

Application Questions

Market

Q9 Market opportunity & competitive environment
- Scale of market opportunity / Demand drivers.
- Timing and accessibility
- Understanding of competitor position
- Space to win in early markets / competitive edge

2-page appendix

Market - Product Fit

Q10 Customer value proposition
- Product or process being taken to market
- Value proposition strength
- Customer problem solved

2-page appendix – show your product/process

Commercialisation Plan

Q11 Near term market entry strategy, sales projections & growth
- 10-year sales projections
- Target market entry plan, including customer segmentation
- Early market traction including customer evidence for offtake
- Roadmap beyond initial adoption
- Commercial business model evolution with scale
- Unit economics and acceptable cost point

2-page appendix – evidence of market support, your positioning advantage and traction (LOI's etc)

Product or Process

Q12 Technical & manufacturing readiness for Scale-Up
- TRL: Technology readiness to scale: status and evidence.
- MRL: Manufacturing readiness to scale: status and evidence.
- Next steps for manufacturing development.

2-page appendix – TRL/MRL roadmap, evidence of validation to automotive standards

The Project

Q13 Manufacturing growth plan & objectives
- Clear Scale-up project objectives and timing plan
- Delivery plan and WBS
- Alignment of project scope to commercial plan
- Alignment of project scope with quality control processes

4-page appendix – Gantt, Work Breakdown, milestones

Q14 Risks and mitigations
- Key risks and level of residual risk after mitigation.
- Quality of risk analysis and mitigations

2-page appendix – Risk Register

Q15 Project costs & justifications
- Sensible project budget by category to meet Scale-up project objectives with clear cost assumptions
- Subcontractor costs reasonable and justified
- Breakdown by Financial Year over life of project
- Justification for public grant

2-page appendix – Spend profile

Application Questions

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

Manufacturing and Supply Chain Plan

Q16 Supply chain management
- Clear work breakdown structure to develop manufacturing operations
- Current supply chain position and relationships
- Logistics, inventory, procurement strategies and development required to support scale-up readiness.
- Supply chain resilience required for scale-up

2-page appendix – current and future supply chain identifying UK and non-UK suppliers

Business Capability

Q17 Organisational readiness
- Organisational structure and readiness for growth
- Talent strategy aligned to growth plans
- Collaborators roles and responsibilities
- Sub-contractors role and responsibilities

2-page appendix – current and future organistaion chart with recruitment timed

Q18 Leadership strength
- Leadership team to deliver outputs of the scale up project to commercial success
- Project Team to deliver successful outcomes in line with manufacturing scale-up plan
- Risks associated with plan to build this team during and after the scale up project

2-page appendix – senior team relevant biography

Financing Plan

Q19 Business expansion investment plan
- Plan to raise finance required to deliver the project and take to market, including co-investment of at least 2x grant ask
- Identification of investor requirements, and plan to resolve this
- Past investment track record (Capitalisation journey so far, justification of company valuation)
- Co-investment confidence (Investor/lender traction and warmup)

2-page appendix

Q20 Financial business case
- Well formatted 10-year finance projection with reasonable sales and costs
- Cash flow analysis including working capital requirement
- Sensitivity analysis of any scenarios
- Justification of overall investment

2-page appendix – cashflow forecast and viability

Application Questions

Economic Appraisal

Q21 Value for Money Workbook

- Download and complete the VfM workbook provided.
- This will cover the content for Question 22 to Question 28

Q22 Additionality, Reasonable Case for Intervention

Q23 Investment in the UK

Q24 UK Jobs

Q25 (Fleet) Emissions Reductions

Q26 (Lifecycle CO2e) Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

Q27 Wider UK Automotive Supply Chain

Q28 R&D Spillovers

Value for money (VfM) overview

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

- Government spending must be good value for UK taxpayers.
- The Treasury requires that public funding for R&D projects undergoes a VfM assessment and meets a minimum threshold.
- BIST economists determine each project's VfM based on its benefit-cost ratio.

How BIST calculate the benefit-cost ratio

$$\text{Benefit-cost ratio} = \frac{\text{Expected benefit to UK economy}}{\text{Cost to the Exchequer (Gov.)}}$$

Expected benefit to the UK economy:
- Jobs, CO_2 savings, R&D spill-overs – data from your written application and VfM workbook
- Adjusted for risk and additionality – evidence from your written application **and** your responses to the written economic feedback and the VfM interview.

Cost to the Exchequer (cost to Government):
- Grant funding requested – for a set level of benefits, the lower the ask, the higher the BCR and your score

Overview of application documents

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

1. Written application (Q1 – Q28)	• **Explain and justify why grant funding is necessary, why this amount.** • Explain project benefits. • Explain risks and mitigation.
2. Value for Money Excel Workbook	• Quantify benefits, include evidence. • Ensure you provide evidence and methodology in the corresponding written application questions
3. Appendix	Further evidence to justify your claims
4. Responses to feedback	• Information, clarification and evidence following written economic feedback. • If the requested evidence cannot be provided, answer the question explaining why that is the case.

The four parts of the application should complement each other.

All four parts are used in the VfM assessment.

Your application should provide:

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Logical narrative

- Explain why the reported benefits and costs are reasonable

Calculation methods

- Provide details of the calculations and any assumptions used

Supporting evidence

- Provide supporting evidence and documentation to support the narrative and method

What kind of evidence?

- Diagrams
- Tables
- Internal documents
- Letters
- Excel spreadsheet.

Must be clear and easy to follow.
Include evidence in the appendix.

Insufficient evidence → application will score lower.

We need to understand project benefits

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

Employment

- What are the job roles within the project and afterwards?
  - Explain why the project safeguards certain jobs (explain why these jobs would be lost within 12m).
  - What would happen to these jobs without the project?

Co2 Savings

- How does your technology deliver CO2 emissions savings.
- Justify the % contribution of the project to CO2 savings provided.
- Explain methodology behind figures provided in the workbook.
- Ensure consistency with emission regulations.

Wider impact of R&D

- Will you register IP for the technology?
- Are you going to share project results? Will other firms or industries benefit?
- How and where will the technology / knowledge be used?
- Can the technology be applied to other sectors such as defence, aero or energy?

Production

- How much will you produce each year?
- How much product will be sold to the UK market?

Additionality: We need to understand why grant funding is essential for your project

From your written application, particularly Question 22, the following must be clear:

1. **Why does this project need grant funding to go ahead? Why this particular amount? Provide evidence.**
   - e.g. unable to raise sufficient funds from other sources – provide proof of declined credit;
   - project doesn’t meet IRR for internal R&D spend due to being high risk – provide analysis to show this.
   - internal competition from a lower-cost location – provide analysis comparing the locations showing the cost gap.

2. **What happens if you don’t receive grant funding (The counterfactual)?**
   - Will the project go ahead on a smaller scale? Or to a different timescale?
   - Would the project be undertaken overseas?

Your evidence of the need for funding → Additionality score → affects BCR

We need to understand project risks

R&D projects are risky by nature. We need to be confident that the main risks have been identified and mitigation strategies are in place.

Your written application should demonstrate that you have:

1. **Considered different types of risks**
   (technological, commercial, route to market, project delivery etc.)
2. **Assessed the impact and developed mitigation strategies**

Your evidence of risks and risk management → **Risk score** → affects BCR

How to complete the VfM workbook

- **New Requirement:**
  - The form has been updated to provide data on lifecycle CO_2 impacts.
- **Read the Guidance:**
  - Check the guidance tabs in the workbook for instructions.
- **Consistency:**
  - Make sure all figures in the workbook match those in your written application, especially:
    - The total government grant requested
    - The company-funded expenditure
- **Salary Entries:**
  - Enter only the actual salary paid to each employee.
  - Do not include extra costs like employer National Insurance, pensions, private health insurance, or other employer expenses.
- **Job Entries:**
  - If jobs created or safeguarded during the project continue into future years, only count the associated Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) once per year.
  - Ensure you do not double-count jobs across the project jobs and post-project jobs tables.

→ Download workbook from Question 21 in the written application
→ When complete, upload the workbook as an appendix to Question 21.

Eligibility criteria

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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Your project must:

- be a **single applicant** or **consortia led**
- have a total grant funding request of between **£2.5 million** and **£20 million**
- have total eligible costs of at least **£5 million**
- last for **at least 12 months**, including an initial period where you can raise the co-investment before your project starts
- start from **1 June 2027**
- end by **31 March 2030**

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

To lead a collaborative project or work alone, 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.

Research and technology organisations (RTO’s) and Academic institutions cannot lead or work alone.

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UK

Eligibility Criteria – Collaboration

For this competition your project can 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**

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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)

Each partner organisation must be invited into the Innovation Funding Service (IFS) by the lead to collaborate on a project. Once partners have accepted the invitation, they will be asked to login or to create an account in the IFS. They are responsible for entering their own project costs in the application.

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Eligibility Criteria – Subcontractors

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

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

Eligibility Criteria – Non-Funded Partners & Number of Applications

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.

Number of applications
A business, academic institution, research and technology organisation (RTO), charity, not for profit or public sector organisation can only lead on one application but can be included as a collaborator in a further two applications.

If a UK registered eligible organisation is not leading an application, it can collaborate in any number of applications.

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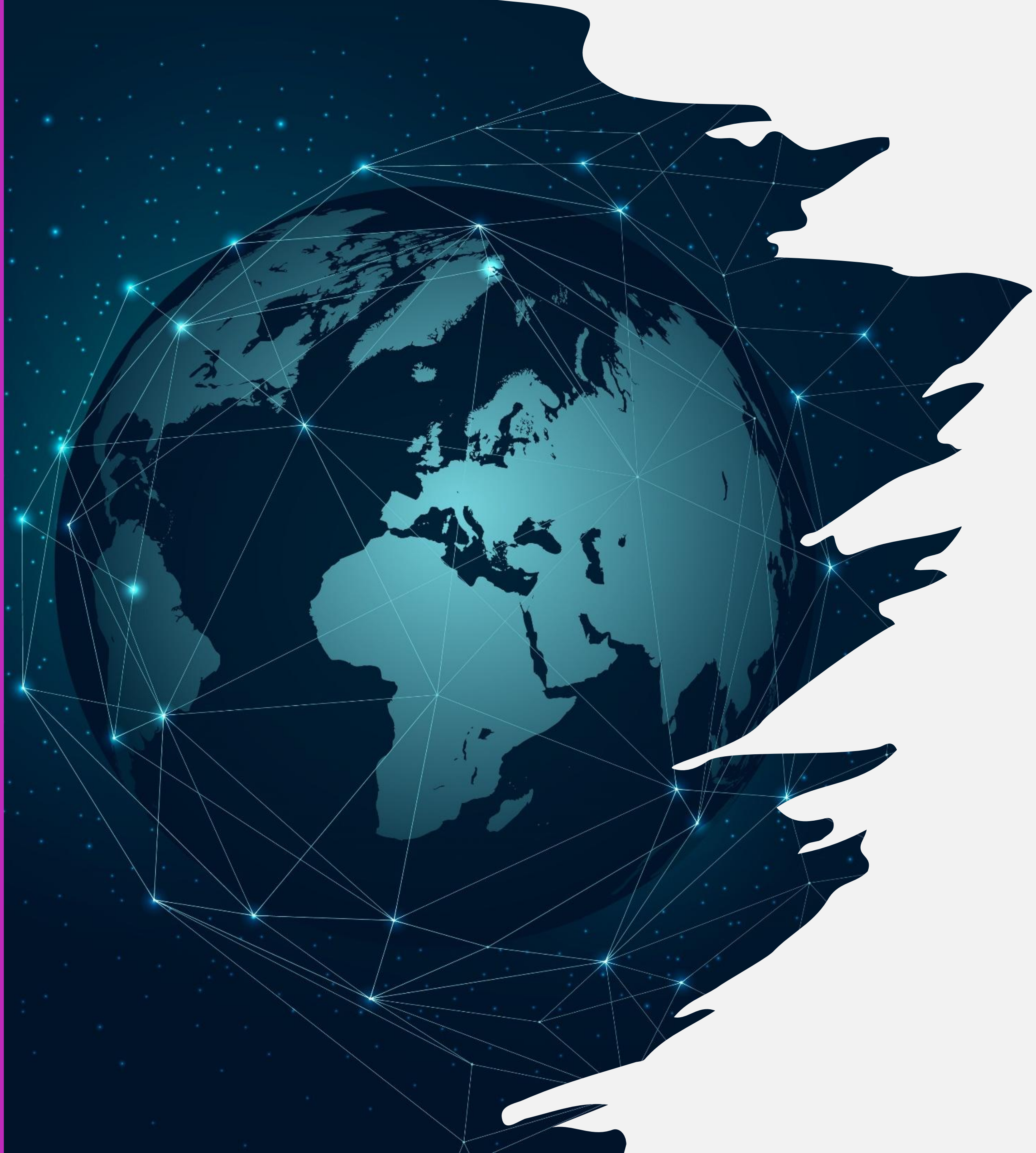
Previously submitted applications

This competition **does** 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 not 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 • and is materially different from the application submitted before • and fits with the scope of this competition

Innovate UK



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

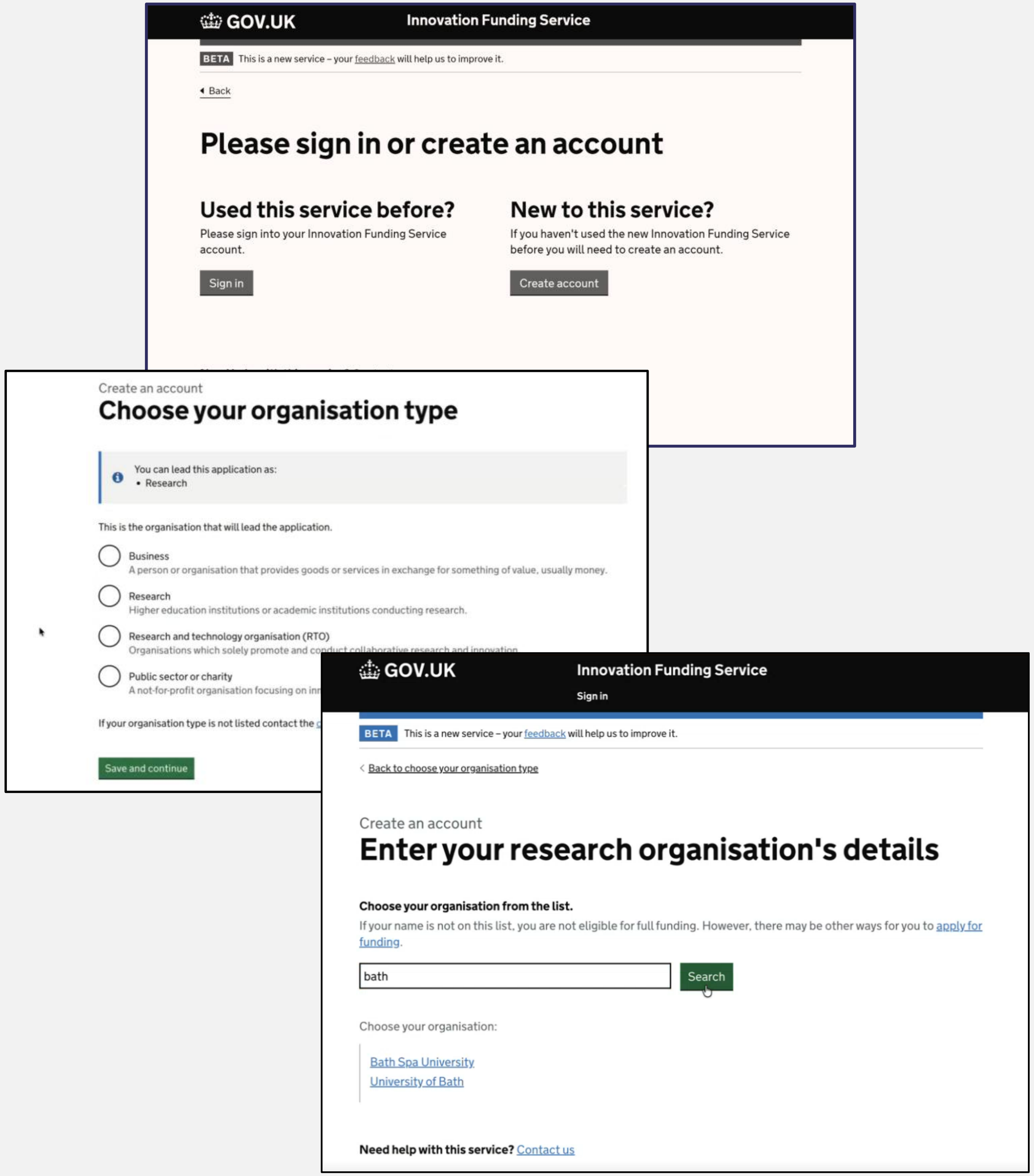
Use Companies House lookup using your company number. This facilitates our checks later if you are successful.

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.



Innovate UK

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

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).

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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.

Innovate UK

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

Your Project Cost Categories

View our Application Finances Instructional Video

Labour

Overheads

Materials

Capital Usage

Subcontractors

Travel & Subsistence

Other

Innovate UK

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

Innovate UK

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.

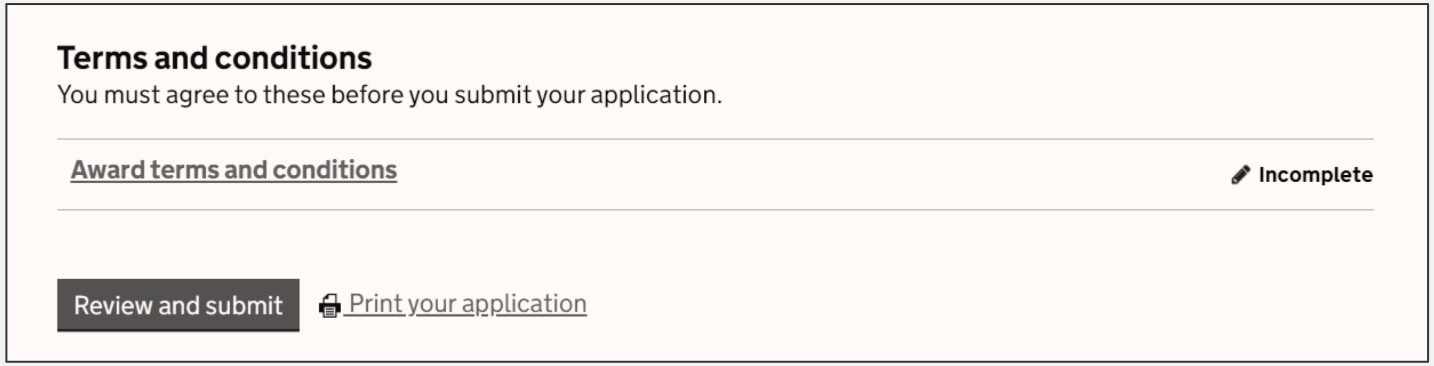
Research organisation participation must be no greater than **10**% of the total project costs.

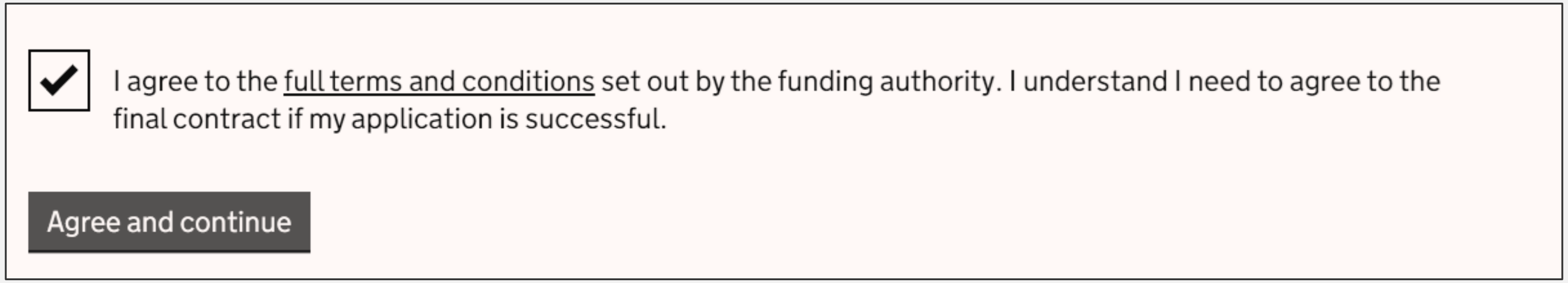
IFS DOES NOT VALIDATE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

UKRI Innovate UK

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.



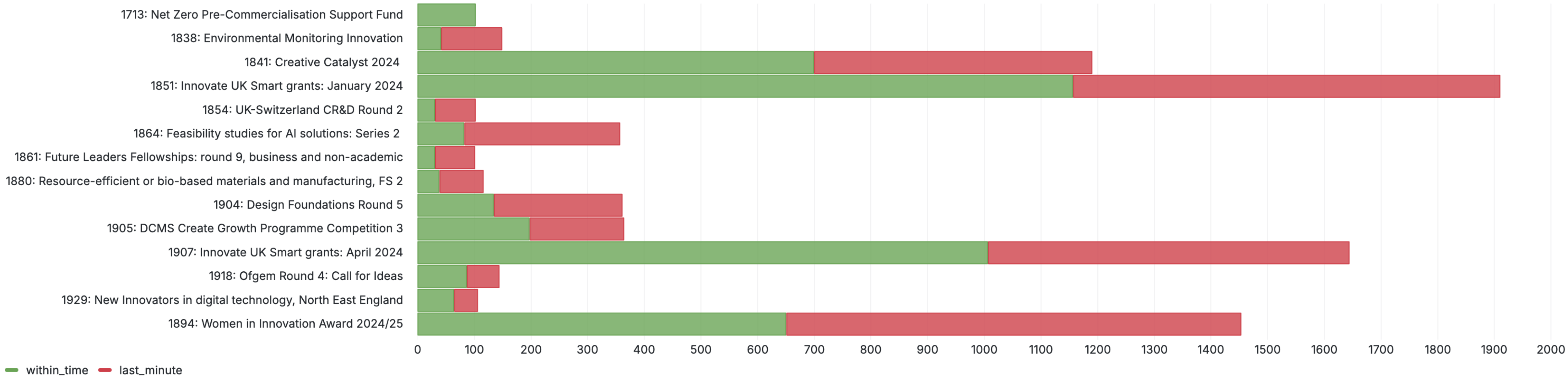


Innovate UK

Submitting your application

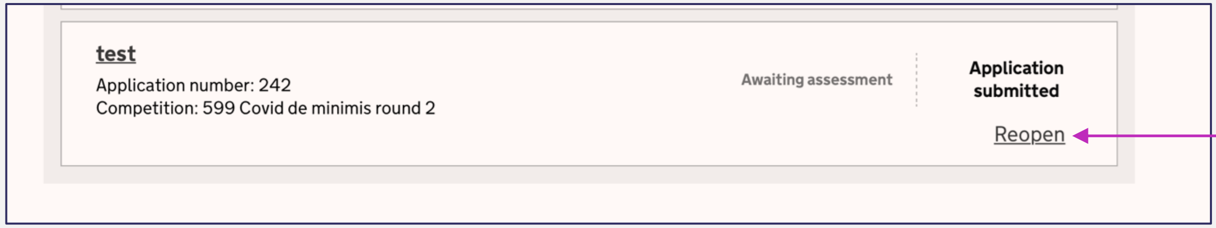
Customer Support can help resolve any issues you might have when submitting **but only if they are contacted before the deadline**.

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

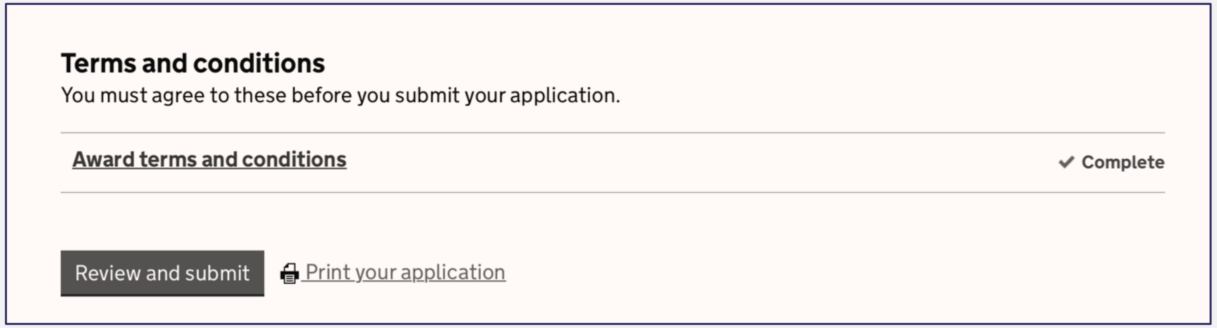


Innovate UK

Editing a submitted application



Reopen by clicking here



Remember to press 'Submit application'

Innovate UK

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

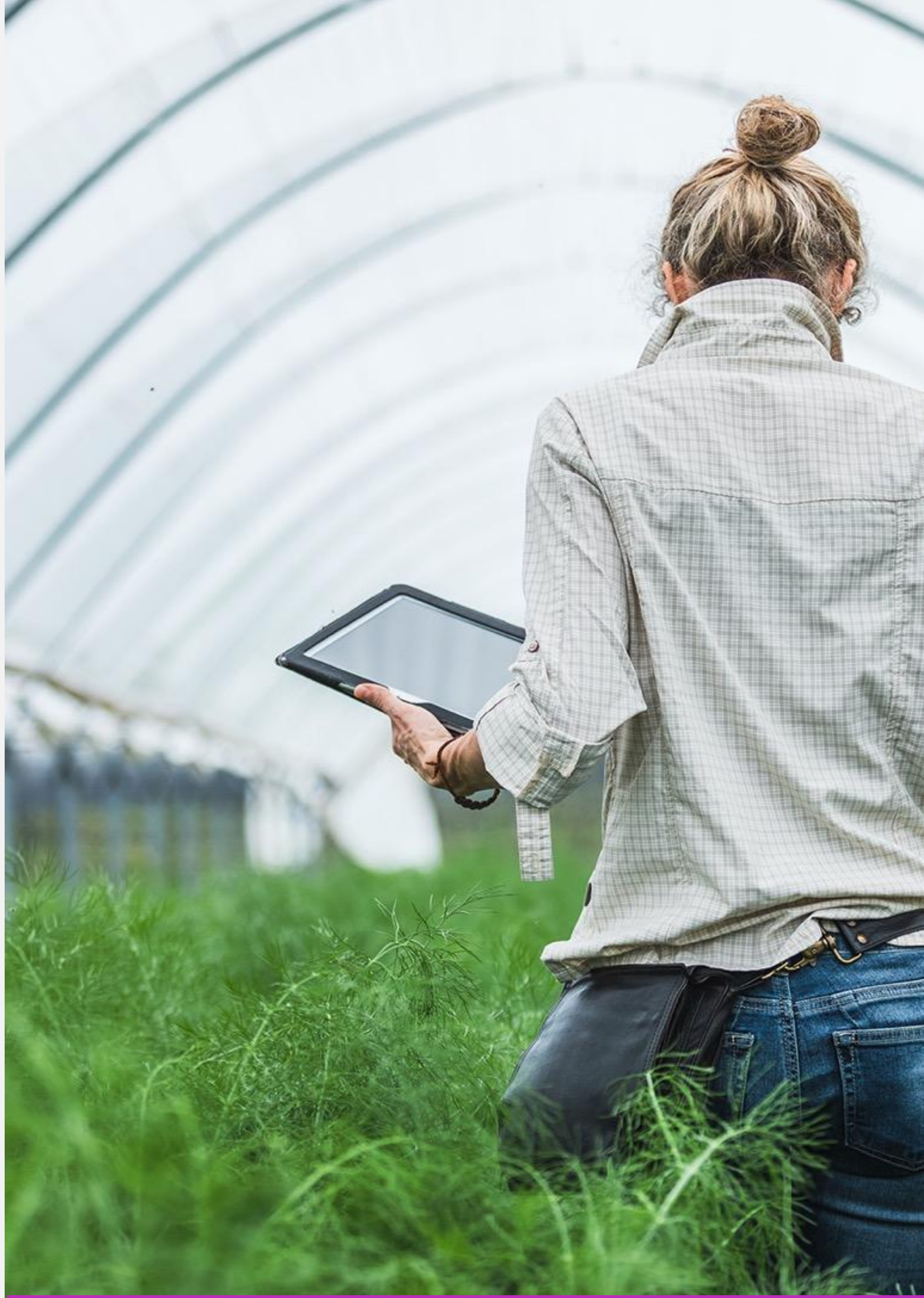
- Removes barriers for people with disabilities and non-English speakers
- Allows you to rephrase your content to meet the word count in a question
- Ensures all aspects of a question are answered
- Can aid a better understanding of:
  - intended/wider market
  - best practice in project management
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

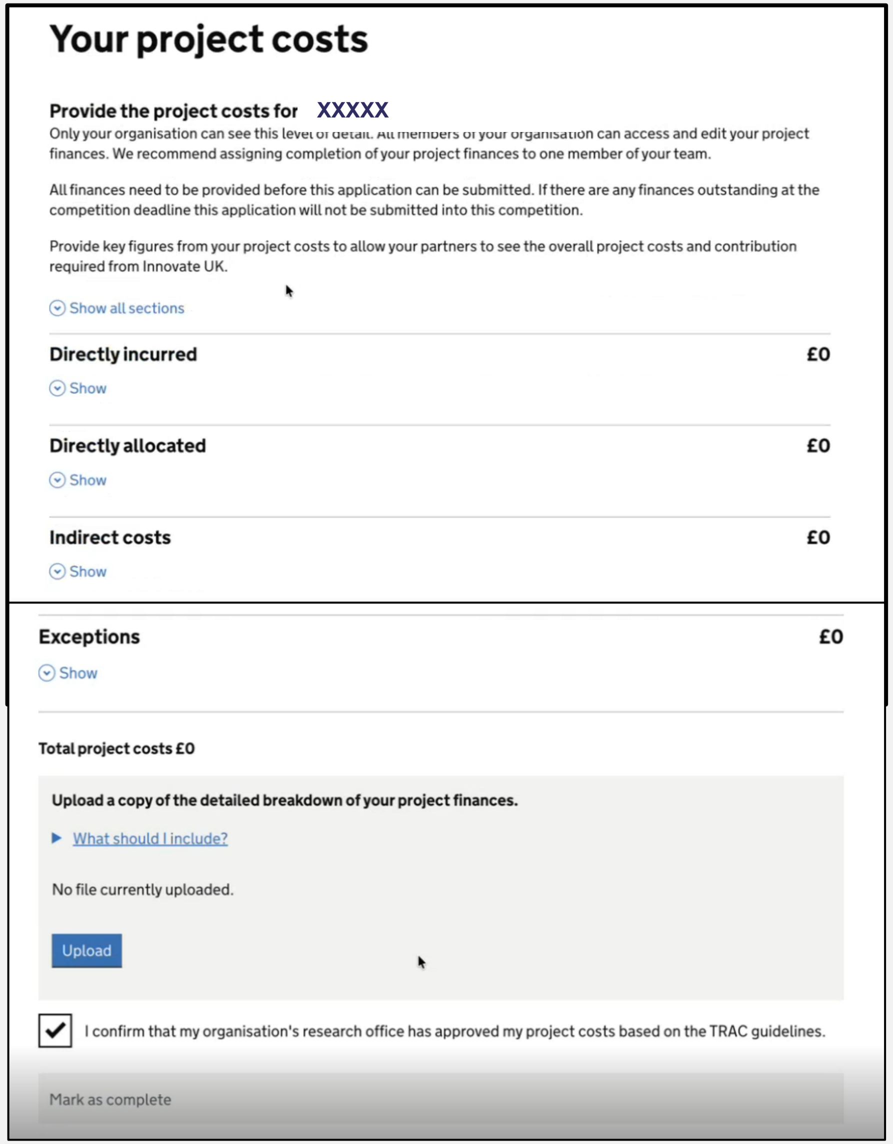
Innovate UK

Changes for Academics



Innovate UK

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

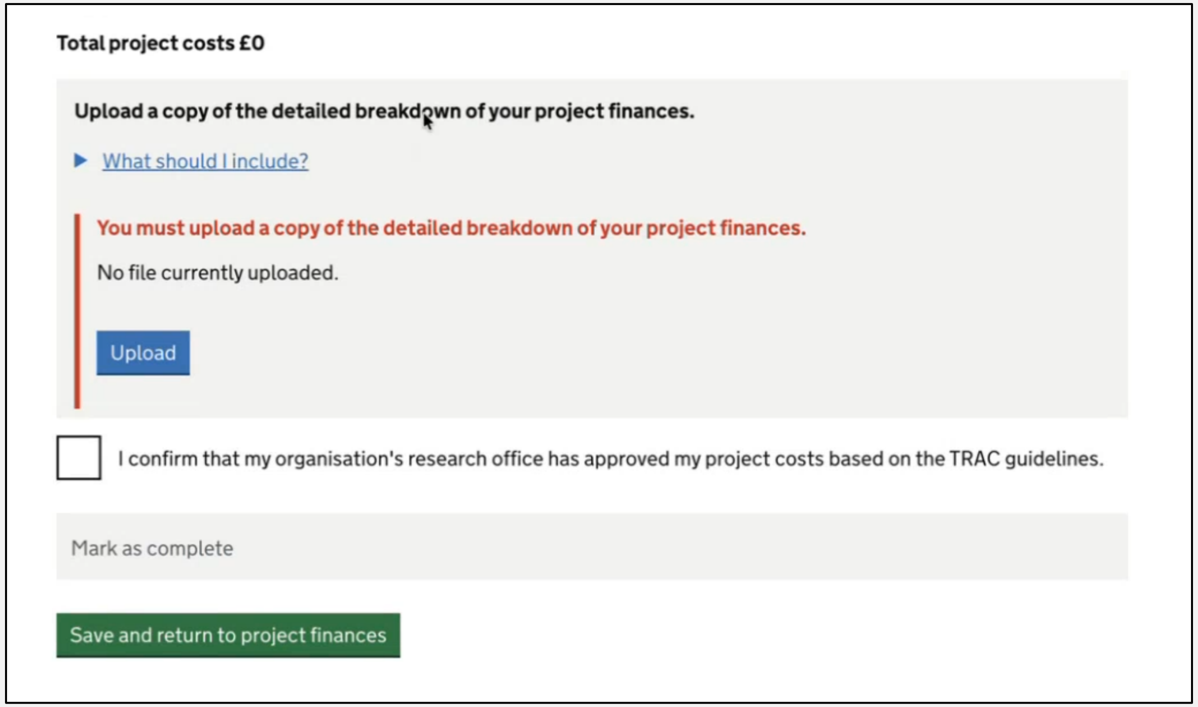
Following TRAC guidelines academic cost are captured under the following categories:

- 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.

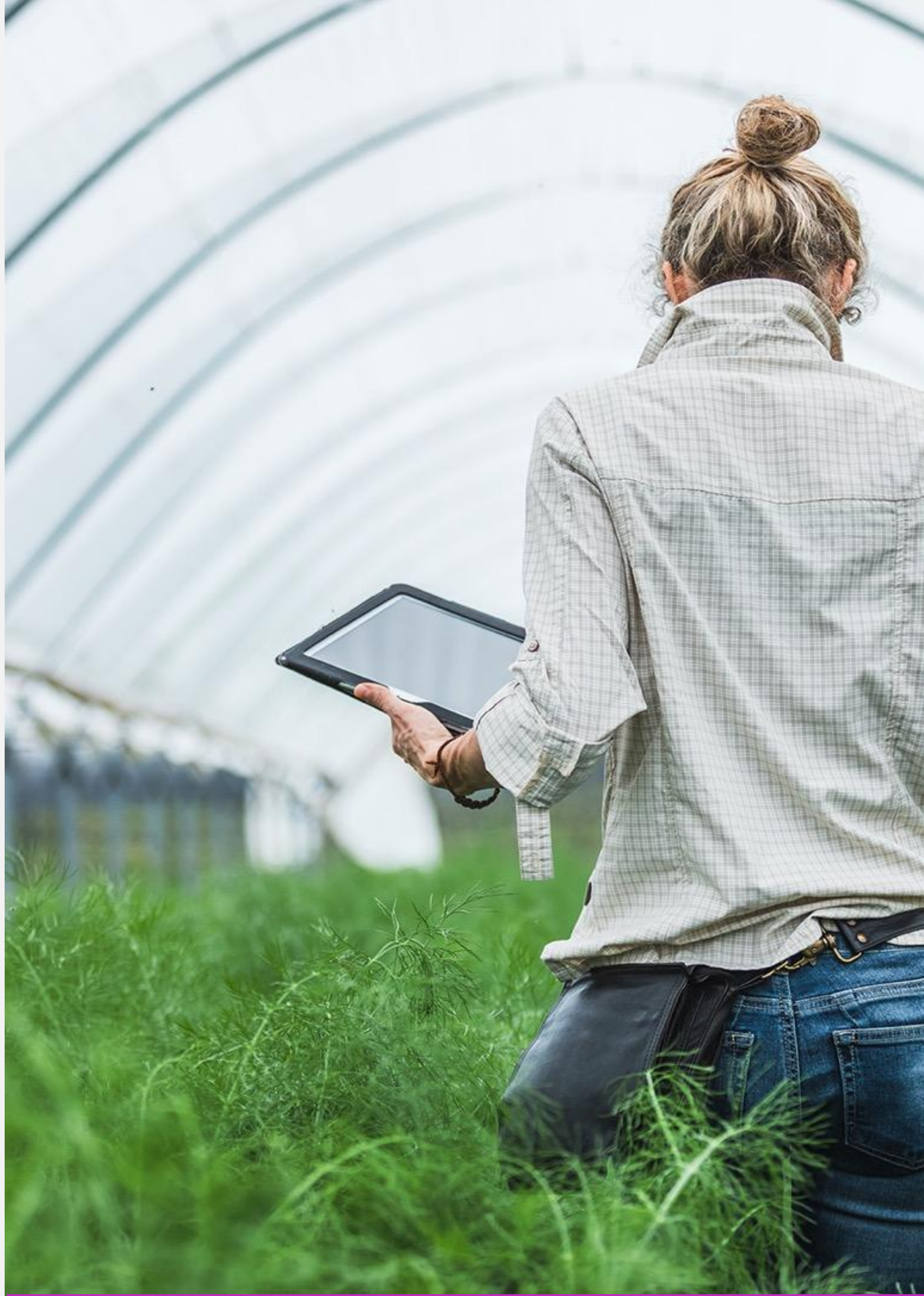
Mark as complete

Save and return to project finances

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

Innovate UK

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**

Innovate UK

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

UKRI Innovate UK

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.

Innovate UK

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).

UKRI Innovate UK

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.

Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria: Funding Opportunities

Funding for R&D projects split into **3** categories: feasibility studies, industrial research and experimental development.

For industrial research projects, you could get funding for your eligible project costs of:

- up to 50% if you are a micro or small organisation
- up to 50% if you are a medium-sized organisation
- up to 30% if you are a large organisation

For experimental development projects which are nearer to market, you could get funding for your eligible project costs of:

- up to 50% if you are a micro or small organisation
- up to 50% if you are a medium-sized organisation
- up to 30% if you are a large organisation

For research organisations conducting fundamental research you could get funding for your eligible project costs of up to 100%.

For general guidance on what our research categories are please visit:
https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/general-guidance/categories-of-research-and-development/#contents-list

UKRI Innovate UK

Research Organisations

Research organisations should be non-profit distributing to qualify and not acting with economic interest in the project. They should explain how they will disseminate the output of their project research as outlined in the application.

Research organisations undertaking non-economic activity can be funded as follows:

- 80% of full economic costs (FEC) if you are an academic institution
- 100% of eligible costs for all other research organisations

Research organisations which are engaged in economic activity as part of the project will be treated as business enterprises for the purposes of funding.

For general guidance on the funding rules for all organisation types please visit:
https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/general-guidance/funding-rules/#contents-list

UKRI Innovate UK

Capital Costs Guidance

Capital costs are one-time expenses for buying, building, or improving important long-term items like land, buildings, or equipment that will be useful for more than a year.

It can be easy to spot costs for buying or building these items, but it can be harder to tell the difference between improvements (which count as capital costs) and regular running costs like repairs, maintenance, or replacements.

Very broadly, capital enhancements should either:

- Significantly lengthen the life of the asset
- Significantly increase the value of the asset
- Significantly increase usefulness of the asset

The capital cost of developments can include:

- Land or property acquisition
- Commissions
- Statutory fees
- Consultant fees directly associated with the development
- Materials, plant and equipment
- Labour
- Fixtures and fittings
- Project insurance
- Internal costs directly associated with the development

Innovate UK

Capital Costs Guidance

Capital Equipment Costs
- Specialist plant, lab/process kit, machinery, computers, furniture, etc.
- Covers all equipment needed to fit out the build project.
- Setup costs (e.g. technicians, calibration) can be capitalised.
- Avoid duplicating these under Capital Usage in CR&D costs.

Property Capital Costs
- Land/property acquisition (incl. SDLT, Land Registry fees)
- Construction (new build, refurbishment, fit-out)
- Equipment via works contractors (e.g. IT, AV, furniture)
- Professional fees (legal, PM/QS, design, insurance)

Capitalised Labour
- Labour directly tied to the capital build can be capitalised.
- Excludes day-to-day operational labour (CR&D).

Other Costs
For capital-related items not covered in the above categories.

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Assessment

Assessment

[YouTube Playlist]

1. How do our assessors assess? (2:33)
   Innovate UK • 8.1K views • 2 years ago
2. How are successful applications selected for funding? (2:39)
   Innovate UK • 17K views • 2 years ago
3. What steps are there before a project starts? (3:45)
   Innovate UK • 7.7K views • 2 years ago
4. How are successful projects monitored? (2:20)
   Innovate UK • 4.1K views • 2 years ago
5. How successful applicants receive their funding. (2:51)
   Innovate UK • 4.6K views • 2 years ago

UKRI Innovate UK

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 **90 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.

Innovate UK

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

Innovate UK

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

Innovate UK

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).

Innovate UK

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/

Innovate UK

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

Innovate UK

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

Innovate UK

Innovate UK Business Growth

The indispensable partner for ambitious innovators

We equip innovation-focused businesses to **make the best strategic choices** and **harness the right resources** to accelerate their growth.

Thousands of innovators benefit from our **intensive and tailored advisory support** to achieve their ambitious goals every year.

We are in their corner – do you want us in yours? Visit iukbg.ukri.org to learn more.

97% of clients would recommend us

94% report that our service has had a positive impact on their growth

"Innovate UK Business Growth gave us the tools to grow with confidence"
Natali Georgieva, Co-founder at ALIANAz

Who do we support?

- Ambitious, innovation-focused businesses that have won an Innovate UK competition, and are growing strongly or have high growth potential, may be contacted about support

- Registered at Companies House with up to 250 employees

- Management teams motivated to engage fully with us to help achieve growth milestones

Innovate UK

Cyber Action Toolkit

The NCSC 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/

Innovate 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

Contact

Advanced Propulsion Centre Team

ADVANCED PROPULSION CENTRE UK

DAN BUNTING
HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

RUBY AKHTAR
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

ALEX WOOD
HEAD OF PRODUCT

JEREMY CLAYTON
SENIOR PROGRAMME MANAGER

RIK ADAMS
INNOVATION DELIVERY DIRECTOR

BEN HARRISON
SENIOR PRODUCT DELIVERY LEAD

info@apcuk.co.uk

Innovate UK 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
iuk.ktn-uk.org

Innovate UK Business Growth
www.iukbg.ukri.org

Innovate UK

Thank You

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@weareinnovateuk