



Innovate
UK

Battery Innovation Round 3 (concept development and feasibility studies)

Applicant Briefing

Date: 16 September 2026

The webinar will start at 10:00

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



Welcome and Introductions

Stephanie Armitage

Competition Manager

Albert Gibbs

Innovation Lead - Aerospace



Agenda

- Welcome/Housekeeping
- Battery Innovation Programme Update
- Competition Summary & Scope
- Key Dates
- Eligibility Criteria
- VFM Assessment explained
- Innovation Funding Service (IFS)
- Use of AI
- Funding Rules
- Assessment
- Additional Support
- Q&A
- Next Steps





UK Government

THE UK'S MODERN INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

Battery Innovation Programme Update

Albert Gibbs – Innovation Lead Aerospace

Delivered by



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Battery
Innovation
Programme

**The Battery
Innovation
Programme turns
scientific insight
into the industrial
confidence now
driving UK
innovation.**



Built a national battery innovation ecosystem entirely from scratch.



Delivering world-class, industry-focused academic breakthroughs with the Faraday Institution.



Built clear routes from science to scale-up, driving commercial impact through UKBIC and AMBIC.

Battery Innovation Programme Ecosystem

From the lab to the factory floor



£2.4 bn

SME pipeline (2024)



7

Open-access
prototyping and
pilot lines



56 GWh

Under construction



4th

Highest VC
investment
globally (2024)



27

Spin-outs



25+

Associated
Universities



4

Battery skills
Initiatives



500+

Researchers



4

Volume auto
Manufacturers

The Future of Battery Innovation

The next era will not be won by individual breakthroughs alone. It will won by

Connect

those who connect science with systems

Speed

those who match speed with substance

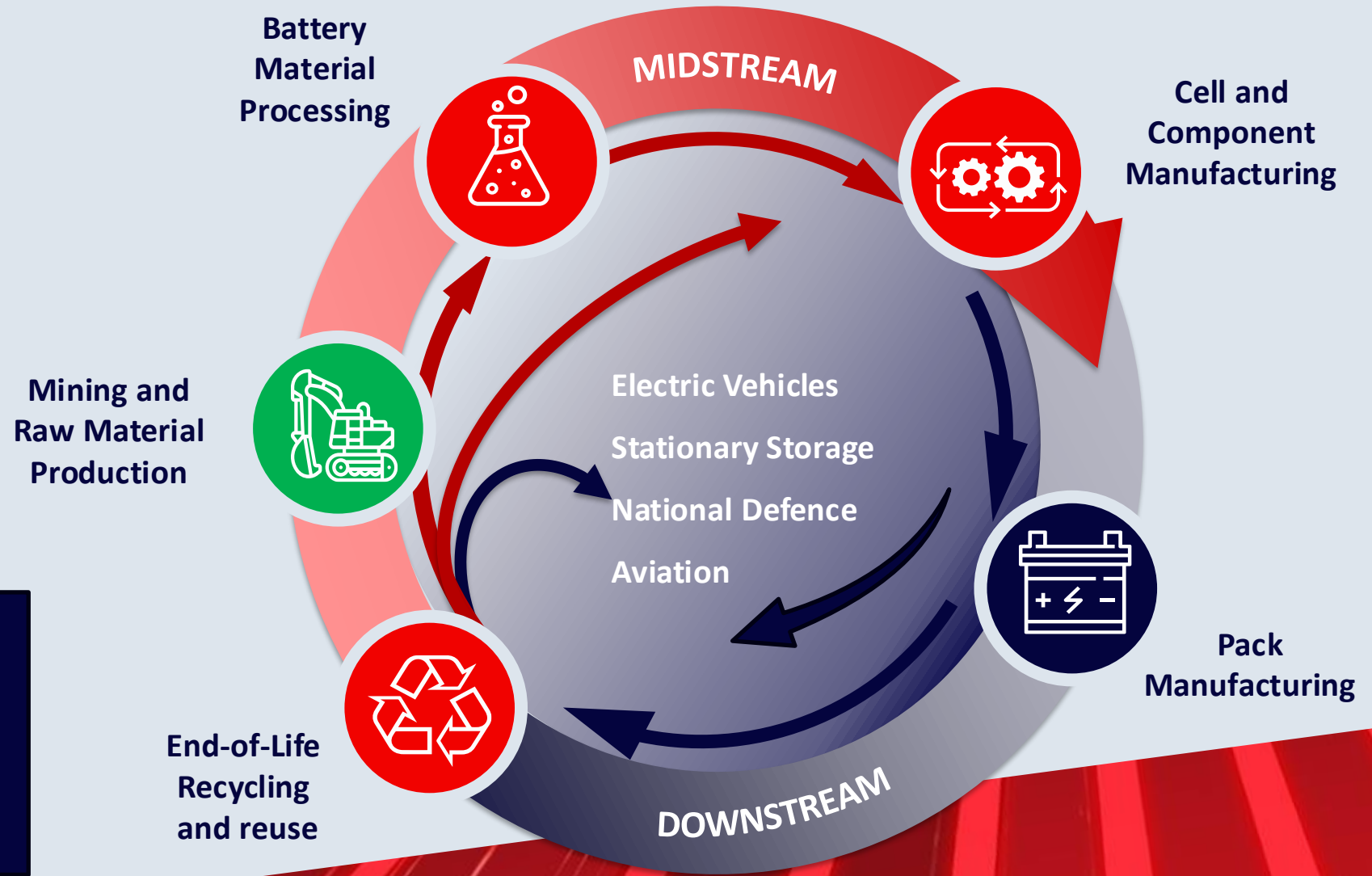
Delivery

those who turn ambition into delivery

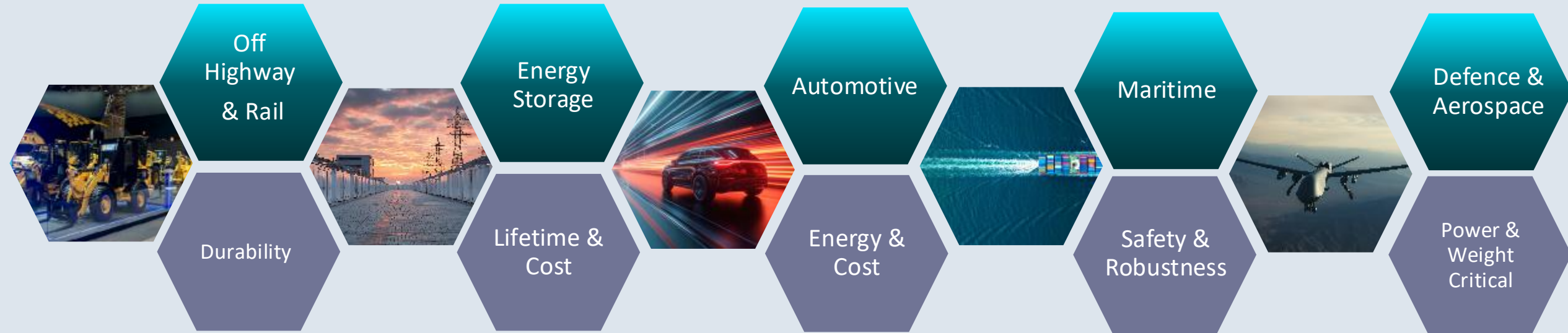


The Strategic Advantage

Creating value by anchoring capabilities across the whole Battery Value Chain



The Sectors Challenges



Focused different solution to various sectors to enable targeted innovation aligned with sector demand and UK needs.

How we are working together

Battery Innovation Programme



Battery
Innovation
Programme

Automotive | Aerospace | Off highway | Storage | Maritime | Defence



Research

Technology Transfer



Collaborative R&D

Investor Partnerships



Scale up capability

AMBIC

Skills Programmes: PhDs, MEng, Level 2&5 skills

International Missions: GBIP, GEM & Inward Missions

Future ambitions: UK Lab Network and Safety facilities

CR&D Round 1 Portfolio

A total of **22 projects** have been awarded **£21.8m**, supporting both concept development and feasibility studies.

Concept Development

£17.6m (18–35-month projects)

Feasibility Studies

£4.2m (12-18-month projects)

Match Funding

Up to **£9.4m** of match funding will be realised over the lifetime of the projects



Competition Summary & Scope



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Why this call and why now?

Growing UK value chain

Up to
£25m

A Bold, Targeted Shift: Focusing **Round Three Concept Development** on high-rate manufacturing and high performance – Cell, Module and Pack development

Unlocking Critical Gaps: Accelerating innovation and resilience by addressing key bottlenecks in the battery value chain.

Building Strong Foundations: Investing early to enable a scalable, competitive, and future-ready supply chain.

Scaling the Vision: Extending this targeted approach to future areas like advanced manufacturing and diagnostics.

Amplifying Impact Together: Working in synergy with programmes like Drive 35 Innovation and Made Smarter.

Collaboration R&D- Battery Innovation Round 3

Proposal Requirement

Market Fit



Demonstrate how it addresses market demand for the specific sector and application.

Problem Solving



Explain how your innovation tackles industry challenges and removes key hurdles.

Value- Chain Impact



Show how it will enhance UK competitiveness across the battery value chain.

Feasibility Studies Strand

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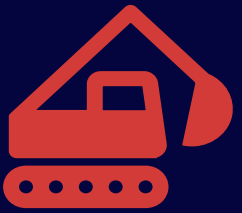


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Battery
Innovation
Programme

Feasibility Studies Strand

Growing the Entire Battery Value Chain



**Material
Extraction**



**Material
Processing**



**Cell
production**



**Module and
pack design**



**Reuse/
recycling**

It aims to:

- Accelerate the development and commercialisation of state-of-the-art battery technologies in the UK
- Support the growth of the UK battery supply chain and related companies
- Enhance the UK's competitiveness in the global battery market
- Demonstrate how battery technologies can meet specific application requirements and drive electrification across diverse sectors

Feasibility Studies

Grant Size

Duration

Focus

Outcomes

£70,000-£500,000

6-18 months

Novel approaches, trials,
tools & methods across
the value chain

Improve cost, performance,
sustainability

Automotive | Motorsport | Off-Highway | Defence* | Aerospace | Rail | Maritime | BESS

*Defence: Innovations needs to be dual use with clear
relevance beyond defence application

Technical Scope

Key Innovation Areas: Feasibility Studies



- Low-impact extraction: More efficient, high-yield and high-purity production.
- Secure material supply: Diversified access to critical and next-generation materials.
- Responsible sourcing: Traceability enabled by digital monitoring tools.
- Next-gen materials: Advanced cathodes, anodes and electrolytes (solid-state, sodium-ion, LFP).
- Efficient processing: Low-impact, high-quality production via digitalisation and automation.
- Circular feedstocks: Use of recycled and circular inputs.
- Automated cell production: Improved electrode manufacturing, assembly and formation.
- Scale-up to gigafactories: From lab and pilot lines to industrial production of new chemistries and formats.
- Quality & sustainability: In-line diagnostics and digital twins to cut energy use, waste and impacts.
- Optimised pack integration: Application-specific, circular-ready module and pack designs.
- Safety & thermal control: Advanced BMS, diagnostics and thermal management.
- Digital optimisation: Digital twins and data-driven health and charge monitoring.
- End-of-life recovery: Safe dismantling with enhanced recovery of critical materials and black mass.
- Reuse & reintegration: Second-life, remanufacturing and return of recycled materials to production.
- Circular systems: Lower waste and footprint enabled by digital tracking and scalable models.

Supporting a cohort – picking winners

Not In Scope

We will not be funding projects that are:

- Non-collaborative projects
- Not aligned with the [Industrial Strategy](#)
- Not demonstrating considerations of the cost, market, environmental impact, and business requirements of the technology
- Related to electrochemical supercapacitors, hybrid supercapacitors, lead-acid batteries and nickel-metal hydride battery
- Related to primary batteries (non-rechargeable batteries)
- Research projects or projects which are academic intensive
- Projects with over reliance on subcontracting
- Aiming to secure funding for capital equipment as a primary focus
- Focused primarily on physical system integration of battery technologies, for example, into vehicles or energy storage systems
- Business as usual R&D projects

Concept Development Strand

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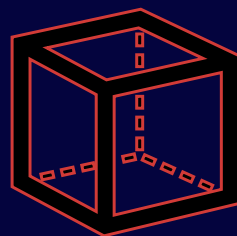
Battery
Innovation
Programme

Concept Development

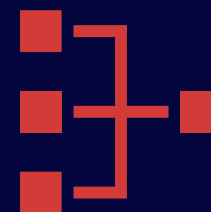
Growing Strategic Critical Supply Chain



Cells



Modules



**Pack and BMS
Systems**

It aims to:

- strengthen UK capability in battery cell manufacturing, pack manufacturing including high-performance cell technologies, automated manufacturing techniques, non-destructive testing, AI driven design and simulation of manufacturing processes
- strengthen UK supply chain security and build resilient, multi-sector manufacturing capability
- support supply chain localisation to align with rules of origin requirements and UK's strategic priorities

Concept Development

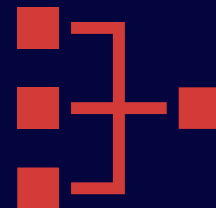
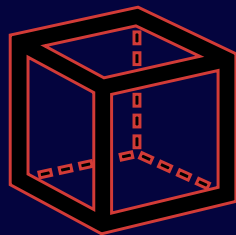
Grant Size	Duration	Focus	Outcomes
£500,000 –£4,000,000	1–3 years	high-rate manufacturing and high-performance Cell, Module, Pack and BMS development	Measurable outputs at scale, Strategic growth and manufacturing capability

Automotive | Motorsport | Off-Highway | Defence* | Aerospace | Rail | Maritime | BESS

*Defence: Innovations needs to be dual use with clear relevance beyond defence application

Technical Scope

Key Innovation Areas: Concept Development



- Enable scale-up from laboratory to gigafactory levels to expand UK large scale cell manufacturing capacity
- Reduce energy demand, waste, and environmental impacts across cell production
- Support the industrialisation of new cell chemistries and formats

- Advance cell to module interconnect fabrication, structural bonding, and module housing assembly
- Produce high-performance busbar configurations for example automated laser welding patterns
- Increase the speed and precision of cell positioning, clamping, and electrical joining

- Innovate in pack design, structural systems, or fast assembly techniques
- Improve safety systems, early warning diagnostics and fault tolerant designs
- Develop advanced BMS functionality, state of health or state of charge algorithms

Supporting a cohort – picking winners

Not In Scope

We will not be funding projects that are:

- Non-collaborative projects
- Not aligned with the Industrial Strategy
- For personal mobility and consumer electronics
- Early-stage discovery research
- Primary focused on battery second life use
- Focused on material extraction and refining
- Business as usual R&D projects

Key Dates

Timeline	Date
Competition Opens	11 September 2026
Submission Deadline	02 December 2026 at 11am
Interview panel (concept development only)	03 – 08 February 2027
Applicants informed	12 February 2027 by 5pm
Project start and end dates – feasibility studies Project start and end dates – concept development	Start by 1 May 2027 , end by 30 September 2028 Start by 1 May 2027 , end by 31 March 2030



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Eligibility criteria



Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Your project must:	Feasibility Studies	Concept Development
Have total eligible costs	between £70,000 and £500,000	between £500,000 and £4 million
Last	between 6 and 18 months	between 12 and 36 months
start by	1 May 2027	1 May 2027
end by	30 September 2028	31 March 2030
carry out all of its project work in the UK		
intend to exploit the results from or in the UK		

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

To lead a project your organisation must:

- be a UK registered business of any size
- collaborate with other UK registered organisations
- be or involve in the consortium a UK registered micro, small or medium sized enterprise (SME)

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

Eligibility Criteria – Collaboration

For this competition your project must be collaborative.

In all collaborative projects there must be:

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

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

For example:

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

Eligibility Criteria – Project Team

Project team

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

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

Eligibility Criteria – Partners/Subcontractors

Non-funded partners

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

Subcontractors

Subcontractors **are** allowed in this competition.

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

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

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

Eligibility Criteria – Number of applications

Number of applications

A UK registered business can only lead on one application but can be included as a collaborator in any number of applications.

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

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 <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)



UK Government

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

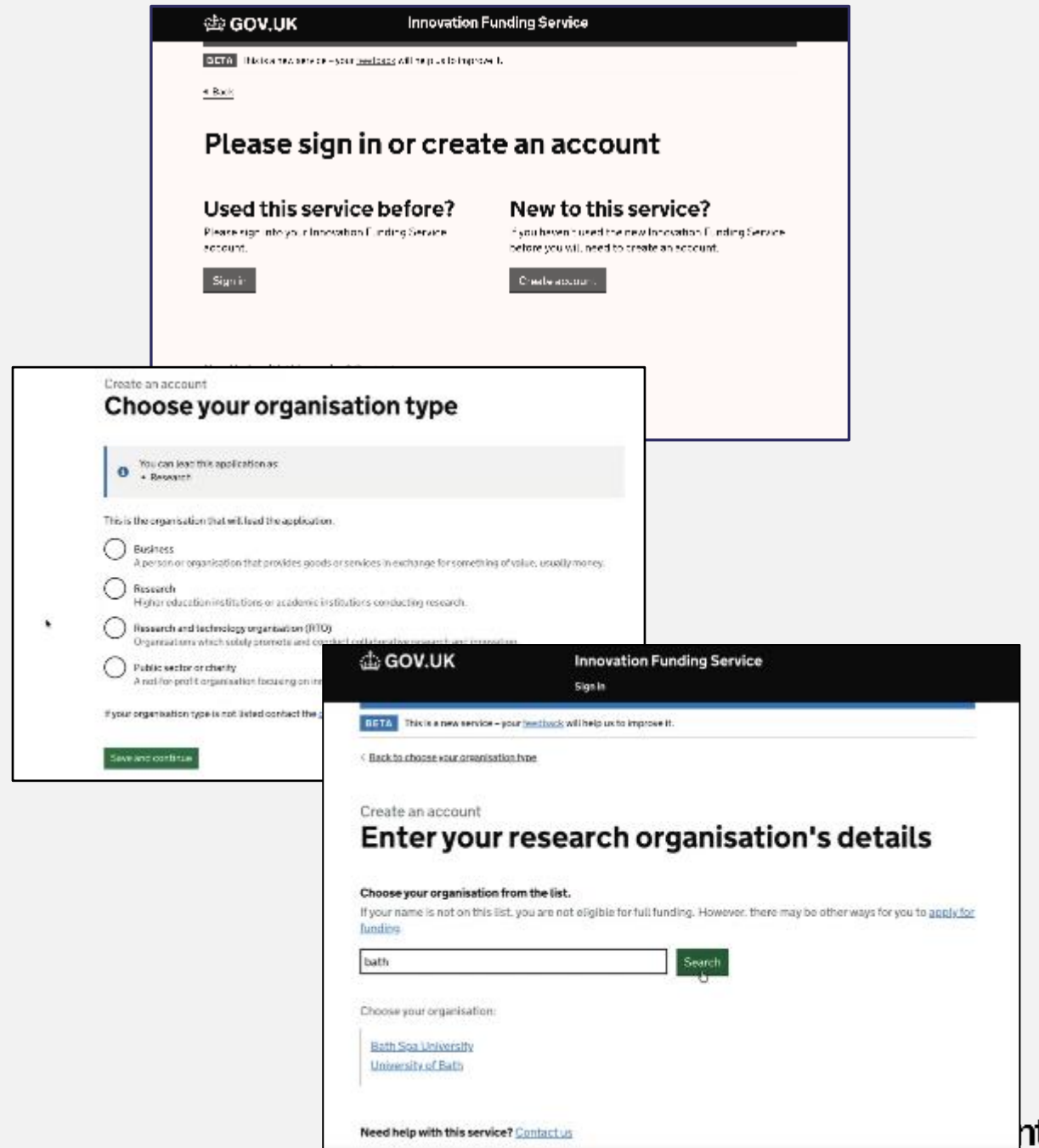
Use Companies House lookup using your company number. This facilitates our checks later if you are successful.

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 image displays three overlapping screenshots of the UK Government's Innovation Funding Service website, illustrating the account creation process.

Top Screenshot: Sign in or create an account
The header shows the GOV.UK logo and 'Innovation Funding Service'. A BETA banner states: 'This is a new service – your feedback will help us to improve it.' Below the header, the main heading is 'Please sign in or create an account'. There are two columns of options:
- **Used this service before?** with the instruction 'Please sign into your Innovation Funding Service account.' and a 'Sign in' button.
- **New to this service?** with the instruction 'If you haven't used the new Innovation Funding Service before you will need to create an account.' and a 'Create account' button.

Middle Screenshot: Choose your organisation type
The heading is 'Create an account' followed by 'Choose your organisation type'. It includes a tip: 'You can lean this application as Research'. Below, it asks 'This is the organisation that will lead the application.' with four radio button options:
- **Business**: A person or organisation that provides goods or services in exchange for something of value, usually money.
- **Research**: Higher education institutions or academic institutions conducting research.
- **Research and technology organisation (RTO)**: Organisations which solely promote and conduct or facilitate research and innovation.
- **Public sector or charity**: A not-for-profit organisation focusing on the public good.
At the bottom, it says 'If your organisation type is not listed contact the...' and has a 'Save and continue' button.

Bottom Screenshot: Enter your research organisation's details
The header shows the GOV.UK logo and 'Innovation Funding Service' with a 'Sign in' link. A BETA banner is present. The main heading is 'Create an account' followed by 'Enter your research organisation's details'. It asks to 'Choose your organisation from the list.' and notes: 'If your name is not on this list, you are not eligible for full funding. However, there may be other ways for you to apply for funding.' There is a search bar with 'bath' entered and a 'Search' button. Below, it says 'Choose your organisation:' and lists 'Bath Spa University' and 'University of Bath' as suggestions. At the bottom, it says 'Need help with this service? Contact us'.

Unscored Application Questions: Feasibility Studies

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Applicant location (not scored)	100 words	No
Question 2	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	International Collaboration (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 5	Export licence (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400 words	No

Scored Application Questions: Feasibility Studies

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 7	Need or challenge	400 words	No
Question 8	Approach and innovation	600 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 9	Team and resources	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 10	Market awareness	400 words	No
Question 11	Commercialisation roadmap and risk management	600 words	No
Question 12	Partner outcomes and market entry strategy	600 words	No
Question 13	Project management	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 14	Project risks	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 15	Equality, diversity and inclusion	400 words	No
Question 16	Added value	600 words	No
Question 17	Costs and value for money	400 words	No
Question 18	Wider impacts	400 words	No
Question 19	Impact for the UK battery industry?	600 words	No

Unscored Application Questions: Concept Development

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Applicant location (not scored)	100 words	No
Question 2	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	International Collaboration (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 5	Export licence (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400 words	No
Question 7	Funded project context (not scored)	600 words	No

Scored Application Questions: Concept Development

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 8	Need or challenge	400 words	No
Question 9	Approach and innovation	600 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 10	Team and resources	400 words	Yes – optional, 2 pages
Question 11	Market awareness	400 words	No
Question 12	Commercialisation roadmap and risk management	600 words	No
Question 13	Partner outcomes and market entry strategy	600 words	No
Question 14	Project management	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 15	Project risks	400 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 16	Equality, diversity and inclusion	400 words	No
Question 17	Value for money assessment (not scored)	100 words	Yes – template
Question 18	Added value	600 words	Yes – mandatory, 2 pages
Question 19	Costs and value for money	400 words	No
Question 20	Wider impacts	400 words	No
Question 21	Impact for the UK battery industry?	600 words	No



DBT Value for Money Assessment Explained

Concept Development Strand- Only



UK Government

DBT Value for Money Assessment (VfM) Overview



Department for
Business & Trade

- IUK programmes are funded by Department for Business and Trade.
- IUK provide technical and strategic assessment.
- DBT assess applications for added benefits to the UK as a result of government support.
 - Assess Benefit to Cost ratio (BCR) as a measure of Value for Money (VfM)
- We assess two key themes based on each IFS application – jobs & investment.
 - Primary benefit is the development of technology which will lead to manufacturing of new products in the UK.
- We also assess 3 criteria for each project. These ‘assumptions’ impact upon the BCR
 - Additionality – the likelihood that the project will not proceed without HM Govt funding
 - Risk – the risk that the project will fail to deliver the claimed UK benefits for technical, market or commercial reasons
 - R&D Spillovers – any additional value to the UK as a result of technology transfer within the UK battery sector, or to other economic sectors within the UK



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The IFS application – which parts are of interest to DBT?

- DBT analysts view your full application, and you are encouraged to support your VfM case throughout the written application and appendices. However, we will particularly examine:
 1. VfM assessment spreadsheet, Q19 costs and value for money, Q11 market awareness
 2. Counterfactual/additionality case: Q18 Added value
 3. Risks. Q15 Project risks, Q12 Commercialisation roadmap and risk management
 4. Spillovers: Q20 Wider impacts, Q21 Impact for the UK battery industry, Q13 partner outcomes
- DBT may contact applicants to help them interpret and verify the data provided, however this is at the discretion of DBT analysts, and you should make every effort to provide a complete application form and VfM spreadsheet in the first instance.
- Provide figures which you judge represent a 'central case' outlook, i.e., do not over exaggerate but also do not under play the potential.

VfM assessment spreadsheet - investment

AutoSave Value for Money Assessment workbook, example Last Modified: 1h ago

File Home Insert Draw Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Automate Help

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing Sensitivity Add-Ins

Project Title: ExtraBatt
Project Number (IFS): 4856725
Lead Partner: TopCell Ltd
Lead Partner email:

Planned Project Spend
Project cost as added in the project finance section

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Project grant	£ 622,310	£ 1,755,523			
Match funding	£ 266,709	£ 75,224			
Total	£ 889,019	£ 2,530,747			

Additional Investment
Additional investment on follow-on activities because of this proposal.

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Private Investment										
R&D Project Expenditure										
Capital Project equipment										
R&D Post-project Expenditure			£755,017	£818,073	£1,044,817	£1,201,246	£1,244,524	£1,432,467	£2,042,367	£2,510,534
Capital Post-project equipment			£1,367,542	£1,752,012	£2,430,542	£2,478,487	£3,139,153	£3,860,164	£4,802,503	£5,977,473
Skills & Training			£ 22,651	£ 24,543	£ 31,575	£ 41,742	£ 47,837	£ 49,004	£ 61,571	£ 75,316

Description
commercialising second life systems to support the revenue forecasts for the project. The majority of R&D expenditure post project is based on ongoing software development to optimise first life battery performance in buses and ongoing R&D to maximise the usable energy from different second life batteries

Introduction_and_instructions | **I - Additional Spend** | II_Jobs | III_Carbon_Saving_Assessment | Guidance_Jobs | Guidance_Additional_Sp

1) Project stage:
level R&T investment
(TRL 3-6)

2) Post-project stage:
commercialisation,
further R&D
investment and scale
up
(TRL7-9)

3) Post-project stage:
Sales, Manufacturing
and continued R&D

VfM assessment spreadsheet - jobs

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled 'Value for Money Assessment workbook_example'. The 'Formulas' tab is active. The spreadsheet contains a form for project details and a table of jobs.

Project Details:

Project Title	ExtraBatt
Project Number (IFS)	4856225
Lead Partner	TopCell Ltd
Lead Partner email	

Key:

- Selected from drop down list
- Data entry

Jobs Table:

Organisation	Description	Postcode	Employee Average Salary	Safeguarded/Created in FTE	Type (R&D/Manufacturing)	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
TopCell Ltd	CTO	OX1 5JP	65000	Safeguarded	R&D/Design	0.1	0.1								
TopCell Ltd	Chemical engineer	OX1 5JP	55000	Created	R&D/Design	5	7								
AutoCAM	Project manager	NN3 0JW	60000	Created	R&D/Design	0.3	0.3								
AutoCAM	Junior battery technician	NN3 0JW	24000	Safeguarded	R&D/Design	2	2								
BattScale	Line manager	NG7 2TU	60000	Created	Manufacturing			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
BattScale	Process engineers	NG7 2TU	45000	Created	Manufacturing			5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
BattScale	Assembly workers	NG7 2TU	25000	Created	Manufacturing			10	10	25	25	25	25	20	20

How many FTE jobs will exist in future as a result of the project that would not exist without it.

- R&D/Design (mostly project stage)
These are roles directly involved in the development of technology during the project stage but also potentially beyond.

- Manufacturing (mostly post-project stage)

These are roles directly involved in the production of your technology, expected mostly at post-project stage.

- Created vs safeguarded

Created jobs are new jobs as a result of the project. Safeguarded are existing jobs which would be lost in the absence of the project.

Record evidence and methodology used to calculate jobs & investment e.g. Q11, Q19

Assumptions evidence

■ **Additionality** (Q18, Added value)

Counterfactual

- What would happen to your project without BIP funding,
- Would the project be cancelled, take place at a slower pace, move overseas?

Funding required

- why BIP funding is appropriate for your proposal
- your cost gap e.g., what is your available R&D budget vs total project costs
- the alternative sources of funding already considered

■ **Risks** (Q15 Project risks, Q12 Commercialisation roadmap and risk management)

- BIP projects can fail to deliver anticipated benefits for several reasons.
- The three main sub-categories that will be assessed are **execution**, **technical**, and **market** risks.
- Comprehensive risk register as annex to Q15 helps us assess this – shows that risks have been considered

■ **R&D Spillovers** (Q20 Wider impacts, Q21 impact for the UK battery industry)

DBT want this technology exploited as widely as possible within the UK. Is IP developed by a range of UK project partners including tech catapults & academics? Can the technology be applied to other sectors beyond batteries?

VfM assessment summary

- **Set out your investment and jobs benefits, Explain your methodology and assumptions clearly in Q19**
- **Evidence the need for HMG support. Provide evidence of real company decision making under Q18 (additionality)**
- **Provide a comprehensive risk register**
- **Explain potential technology spillovers within and outside of the battery sector**
- **DBT may contact some applicants by email or telephone to enquire further about information provided**



Innovation Funding Service (IFS) Cont'd



UK Government

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 Government

UK Strategic Export Controls - overview

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

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

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

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

Q4 International Collaboration (not scored)

Does your proposed work involve any international collaboration or engagement?

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

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

Q6 Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)

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

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

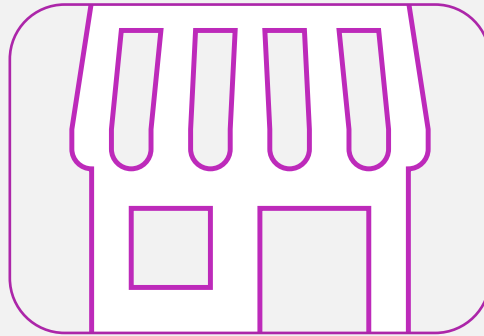
We may ask you to provide additional TR&I information at a later date, in line with UKRI TR&I Principles and funding terms and conditions

Your Project Cost Categories

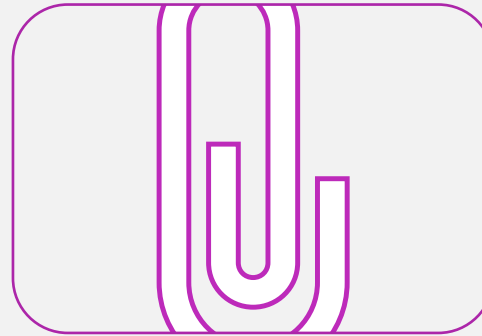
View our [Application Finances Instructional Video](#)



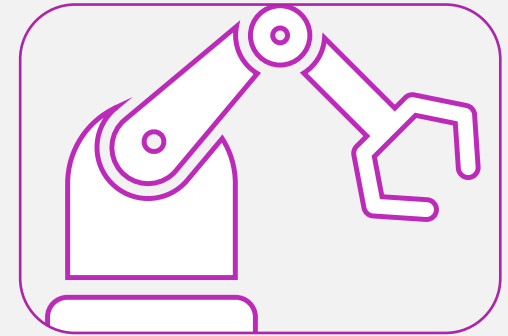
Labour



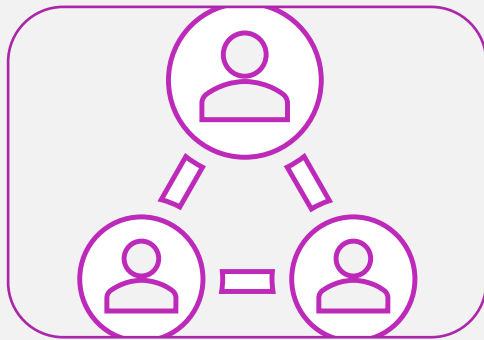
Overheads



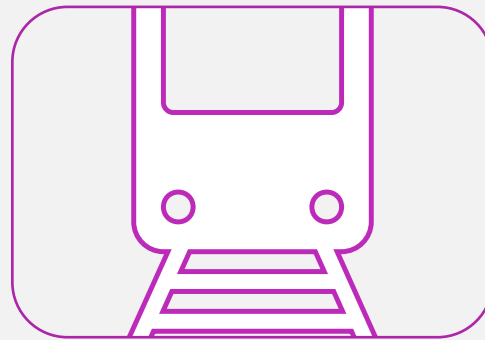
Materials



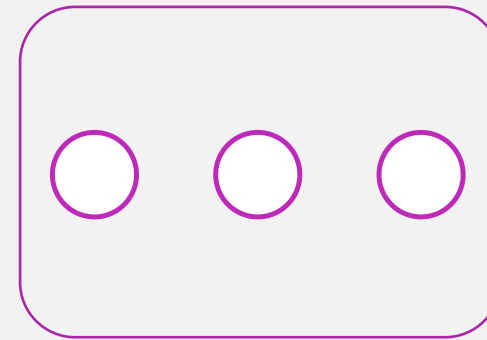
Capital Usage



Subcontractors



Travel &
Subsistence



Other

Your project finances

Finances

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

[Your project finances](#)

 Incomplete

[Finances overview](#)

 Incomplete

Finances

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

Please complete your project finances.

[Your project costs](#)

 Incomplete

[Your project location](#)

 Incomplete

[Your organisation](#)

 Incomplete

[Your funding](#)

 Incomplete

Your project costs

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

Your project location

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

Your organisation

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

Your funding

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

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

Checking your finances are complete

Finances summary

These organisations have not marked their finances as complete:

- Ludlow
- EGGS



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

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

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

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

Research organisation participation must be no greater than **30% or 50%** of the total project costs, depending on competition strand.

IFS DOES NOT VALIDATE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Terms and Conditions

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

Terms and conditions

You must agree to these before you submit your application.

[Award terms and conditions](#)

 Incomplete

[Review and submit](#)

 [Print your application](#)



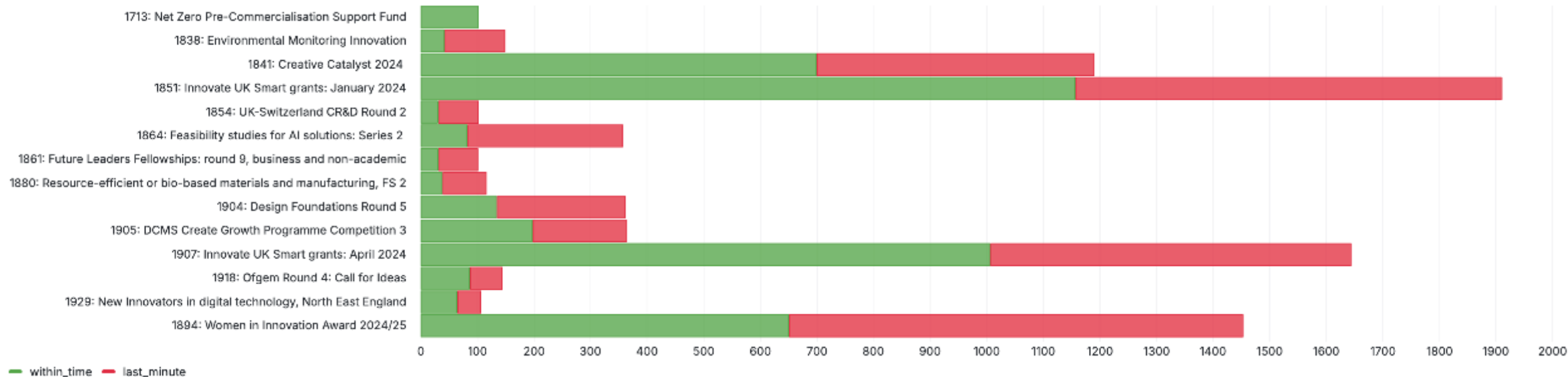
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[Agree and continue](#)

Submitting your application

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

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



Editing a submitted application

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

Awaiting assessment

Application submitted
[Reopen](#)

Reopen by clicking here

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

[Award terms and conditions](#)

✓ Complete

Review and submit

 [Print your application](#)

Remember to press
'Submit application'

Terms and conditions

Open all

[Award terms and conditions](#)

✓ Complete +

Submit application

Need help with this service?

[Contact us](#)

Pros & Cons of using AI to support you

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

Pros

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

Cons

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

Changes for Academics



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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

Academic cost categories

Total project costs £0

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

[What should I include?](#)

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

No file currently uploaded.

[Upload](#)

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

[Mark as complete](#)

[Save and return to project finances](#)

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

Funding Rules



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You are unable to claim funding if

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

Other Innovate UK projects

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

We will not award you any further funding if you:

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

Compliance with the UK Subsidy Control Regime

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

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

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

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

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

Subsidy Control (and State aid where relevant)

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

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

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

Financial viability and eligibility

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

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

Article 10 of the Windsor Framework

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

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

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

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

Undertakings in difficulty

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

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

Eligibility Criteria: Funding Opportunities

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

For feasibility studies and concept development 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

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>

Assessment



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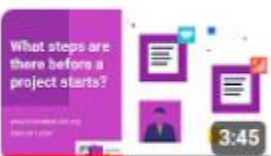


Assessment

[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



Portfolio Review and MCDA

Portfolio Review

We want to fund a variety of projects across different technologies, costs, markets and technological maturities. All project costs will be assessed to ensure strong value for money.

Applicants requesting higher levels of funding should expect proportionate scrutiny and must provide clear justification for their costs to demonstrate the efficient and effective use of public funds.

Concept development Strand, MCDA

The Multi Criteria Decision Analysis tool (MCDA) is used to collate information from your written application, value for money assessment and interview to provide a clear information base for the portfolio review.

Further information on the implementation of the MCDA and the prioritisation criteria will be available before projects reach the interview stage of the application.

Project setup

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

These are:

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

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

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

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

How you get paid

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

Bank account – Guidance

Accepted business bank accounts – subject to change

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

Additional Support



Reasonable adjustments

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

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

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

Reasonable adjustments – what we need from you

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

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

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

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

Reasonable adjustments – what we can do

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

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

Reasonable adjustments – what we can not do

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

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



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 ALIANA



UK Government

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

Contact Us

Whether you need help to set a strategic direction or with progressing your innovation, financing your growth or unlocking the potential of international partnerships.

visit our website:
www.iukbg.ukri.org

or call us on:
0300 123 3066

Contact Business Growth

The preferred way to get in touch with us is via email using the form below – we aim to reply within 2 working days. However, we will also be available by telephone during working hours (9am-5pm) and an answerphone will be available at all other times or when our lines are engaged (we will return your call as soon as possible). Please note that you cannot access our colleagues at Innovate UK through these channels.

If you're not from the UK, please [contact your local UK branch](#).

You can also refer to our [FAQs page](#) to find answers to frequently asked questions about our service.

Telephone | 0300 123 3066

Name

Email

Telephone

Company name

Registered company name or intended trading name

Note: The service is offered to all Innovate UK competition winners but any suitable ambitious innovation-focused businesses with under 250 employees can be supported



Cyber Action Toolkit

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

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



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.

Cross-Sector Battery Showcase – Advancing Innovation Across Industries

18 June 2026
09.00 - 16.00
Leicester

Attend the 3rd Cross-Sector Battery Systems Innovation Network Showcase Linking the battery supply chain with a broad set of end-user markets

Connect with a wide range of end-user markets.

Meet new partners and collaborators across the battery ecosystem.

Gain insights into emerging opportunities across sectors and technologies.

Explore how UK Innovation ecosystem can accelerate battery innovation and adoption.

Develop an understanding of funding opportunities across different programmes.

[Interested in exhibiting?](#)

[Interested in giving a lightning pitch?](#)

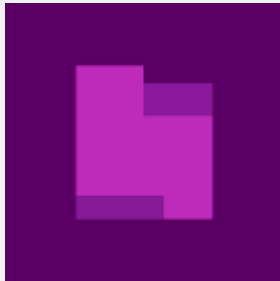
Register →

Contact

Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org



Innovate UK

ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk



**Innovate UK
Business Connect**

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



**Innovate UK Business
Growth**

www.iukbg.ukri.org

Q&A



Innovate
UK



Key features of a good application

- 1 Alignment to the competition scope
- 2 A clear demonstration of innovation
- 3 A strong business case
- 4 A convincing value proposition
- 5 A credible plan for research and development
- 6 The right consortium
- 7 A clear need for support
- 8 The right kind of risk



1 Fit within scope

Make sure your project is within the remit for the competition – details can be found in the Briefing Document.

2 Agree key points with partners

Get started on your outline project plan and Consortium Agreement as soon as possible – who will do what and who will own what when it comes to IP?

3 Be clear and concise

You don't have much space, so make every word count and avoid overly technical language.

4 Make a realistic plan

Remember if you get the funding you will have to do the work so don't write yourself into a corner.

5 Be convincing

Why do you need the money? Ask yourself – would you invest?

6 Remember risk and innovation

Projects need sufficient quantities of both to be eligible for Innovate UK funding.

7 Quantify and justify assertions

Provide numbers and evidence where possible to back up your claims.

8 Excite and inspire

Stand out from the crowd and make sure your first few paragraphs are particularly strong as that first impression counts.

9 Get advice and feedback from Innovate UK

We can provide independent, objective feedback and advice. Contact us early in the application process to get the most value out of our expertise.

10 Don't leave it too late to ask questions or submit!

Remember that most Innovate UK competitions close at 11am, but you can upload and overwrite your application as many times as you like – only the last version will be evaluated.



Thank You



@InnovateUK



Innovate UK



Innovate UK



@weareinnovateuk