

Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition Round 6

Welcome and Introductions

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Agenda

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



Key Dates

Timeline	Dates
Competition Opens	24-01-2025
Submission Deadline	16-04-2025 11am
Applicants informed	02-06-2025 by 5pm
Project start and end dates	Start by: 01-09-2025 Finish by: 31-03-2026

Competition Summary & Scope



Innovate
UK

Summary

Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation, will work with the Department for Transport to invest up to **£30 million** in innovation projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from shipping.

These will be to carry out **innovative pre-deployment trials and feasibility studies** into clean maritime and Smart Shipping technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality.

Important

If you are unsure about anything in this competition, always reach out to support@iuk.ukri.org

Important - Strands

This competition has 3 strands:

Strand 1 – Pre-deployment trials

Strand 2 – Feasibility Studies

Strand 3 – Smart Shipping

If you are unsure which Strand to apply to, please email support@iuk.ukri.org

Important – end date

Projects must end by **31 March 2026**.

This is a hard deadline due to budgetary constraints.

There will be no extensions so always be realistic with your project timelines.

Important – end users

Projects must include at least **one representative end user** such as a vessel operator, port or harbour authority: the end user must show clear commitment to the project.

If there is no clear end user included, **the application will be out of scope.**

Important - regulation

Projects must not plan to test technologies in the water as part of this competition.

Projects must still detail their plan for compliance with regulation and how they will work with relevant regulatory bodies for novel technologies.

Important – new scope additions

For Strand 1 and Strand 2, the following are specifically in scope:

- retrofit readiness to accommodate future clean maritime technologies
- type approval of novel on-vessel equipment

Fishing and aquaculture vessels are specifically in scope of all strands

Training and skills feasibility studies are in scope of Strands 2 and 3

Strand 1 – Pre-deployment Trials summary

The aim of Strand 1 is to fund **pre-deployment testing** of clean maritime technologies, without a focus on Smart Shipping.

Your proposal must design, develop and test novel clean maritime technologies focused for on-vessel technologies, infrastructure technologies or both.

Strand 2 – Feasibility studies summary

The aim of Strand 2 is to fund **feasibility studies** of clean maritime technologies and skills without a focus on Smart Shipping.

Your project must undertake a technical and economic feasibility study associated with the development and real world demonstration of on-vessel technologies, infrastructure technologies, skills or a combination of each.

Strand 3 – Smart Shipping summary

The aim of Strand 3 is to fund detailed **feasibility studies and pre-deployment projects** focused on using **digital technologies** to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality in the maritime transport sector.

Your project must conduct either a technical and economic feasibility study or a pre-deployment project based on Smart Shipping technologies.

All Strands requirements

Your project must:

- demonstrate a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions or air pollutants from the maritime transport sector
- underpin a future demonstration by delivering a meaningful technology, route to market, supply chain innovation, or, for Strands 2 and 3 only, skills initiative
- achieve market potential through a clear strategy for commercialising the technology and the products, demonstrating the potential for significant value to the UK
- include at least one representative end user such as a vessel operator, port or harbour authority: the end user must show clear commitment to the project
- bring together a team with the necessary expertise and experience to successfully deliver the project objectives

All Strands deliverables

Please review the competition brief pages for what you must deliver by the end of your project.

This includes:

- detailed plans and resources required for future demonstrations
- quantifying lifecycle emissions and economic impacts in the future
- disseminating and sharing results
- detail of the barriers to market adoption

All Strands types of vessel

Technologies for all sizes and categories of maritime vessel subject to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 are in scope. Solutions can be suitable for one target size of vessel or multiple. Pleasure, commercial, fishing and aquaculture vessels are in scope.

Where your project intends to utilise a vessel, the vessel is expected to be a United Kingdom Ship, otherwise you must provide justification for use of a non-United Kingdom Ship in your application. United Kingdom Ship is defined in 85(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995.

All Strands types of vessel

All ports and harbours are in scope, including infrastructure for freight, passenger, pleasure and commercial vessels. Offshore infrastructure is also in scope, such as wind farms.

All Strands previous applications

We encourage new projects and consortia that have not been part of previous rounds of the Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition (CMDC). You are not required to have been successful in previous rounds of the CMDCs to apply with an eligible project to Round 6.

Once your project is completed, you are expected to be at the point that you are investment and construction ready to fully demonstrate the solution and take it to market.

All Strands portfolio approach

We want to fund a variety of projects across different technologies, markets, technological maturities, themes and locations. We call this a portfolio approach.

Strand 2 and 3 only – Training and Skills feasibility studies

If your proposal focusses on clean maritime training and skills, you must focus on the vocational or technical training infrastructure requirements to train the clean maritime design, manufacturing, maintenance or operational workforce.

Your clean maritime training and skills project must demonstrate:

- an ambitious and realistic idea, to meet a significant talent requirement for innovative clean maritime technology
- a clear focus on skills for significantly reducing emissions in the maritime sector
- that it is novel to the UK, a region or a specific group of people
- value for money and a credible, evidenced return on investment, in terms of trained, upskilled and reskilled people

Strand 2 only

Green shipping corridor projects

If your proposal focusses on a green shipping corridor, you must assess and develop a clear implementation plan for the real-world establishment of the corridor. To qualify as a corridor, plan for at least one zero-emission (well to wake) vessel to be transiting the route.

Both UK domestic and international green shipping corridors are in scope for this strand.

Please see the competition brief page for Strand 2 for more detail on deliverables for green shipping corridor projects.

Scope themes – Strand 1 and 2

Strand 1 and 2 only

Prioritised themes:

- International ferries
- Vessels greater than 24 metres in length
- Ammonia solutions

Strand 1 and 2 only

Vessel low and zero emission technologies:

- retrofit readiness to accommodate future clean maritime technologies
- vessel propulsion and auxiliary engines, for example: batteries, fuel cells, and internal combustion engines using low or zero carbon alternative fuels such as hydrogen, methanol, ammonia or multi-fuel combinations
- wind propulsion, including soft-sail, fixed-sail, rotor, kite and turbine technologies, targeting a range of ship types from small vessels to large cargo carriers, both as primary and auxiliary propulsion

Strand 1 and 2 only

(continued) Vessel low and zero emission technologies:

- low carbon energy storage and management
- physical connections to shoreside power or alternative fuels, including fuelling lines
- enabling technologies such as motors, drives, sensor and power electronics
- energy efficiency technologies, where they significantly enhance the vessel range or lower alternative fuel usage to enable the fuel's viability
- type approval of novel on-vessel equipment

Strand 1 and 2 only

Important note about battery electric vessel projects:

Projects developing **battery electric solutions for vessels 24 meters or less** need to show clearly how their project is novel and how it addresses limitations with existing electric vessel solutions. Applications for battery electric solutions that are not novel or innovative will not be sent for assessment.

Battery electric applicants are encouraged to contact support@iuk.ukri.org at least 10 working days before the competition closes to check whether your application is in scope.

Strand 1 and 2 only

Infrastructure technologies including offshore solutions:

- shoreside storage and bunkering of low and zero carbon fuel
- charging infrastructure and management for electric vessels
- shore power solutions, such as enabling docked vessels to turn off their conventional power supply for ancillary systems
- physical connections to shoreside power or alternative fuels, including fuelling lines

Strand 1 and 2 only

(continued) Infrastructure technologies including offshore solutions:

- shoreside renewable energy generation at the port to supply vessels
- low carbon fuel production, such as hydrogen, methanol, ammonia
- zero emission infrastructure, including stationary assets for freight handling and port operations within a port or harbour site
- zero emission offshore infrastructure for wind, oil and gas farms that support zero or low emission vessels

Strand 1 and 2 only

Important note about infrastructure technologies

Projects focused on **shore power technology** need to show clearly how their project is novel and how it addresses limitations with existing shore power solutions.

Applications for shore power solutions that are not novel or innovative will not be sent for assessment.

Shore power applicants are encouraged to contact support@iuk.ukri.org at least 10 working days before the competition closes to check whether your application is in scope.

Strand 2 only

Strand 2 other themes:

- Domestic and international green shipping corridors
- Clean maritime training and skills initiatives

Strand 1 and 2 only

Projects we will not fund:

We are not funding projects that are:

- focusing on Smart Shipping, these technologies are in scope of Strand 3
- focusing only on increasing the efficiency of current conventional fossil fuels and fossil fuel powertrains of maritime vessels
- focusing on marine conservation and ecology
- focusing on on-vessel power generation to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG's), for example wind turbines and solar panels
- focusing on non-methanol biofuels, except for projects strictly focused on inland waterway vessels and Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM), which includes port-side machinery
- focusing on Personal Watercraft (PWC)

Strand 1 and 2 only

(continued) Projects we will not fund:

- focusing on the use and production of synthetic fuels, note: this exclusion does not apply to methanol, ammonia and hydrogen fuels
- focusing on submarines and submersible vessels
- focusing on military applications
- covered by existing commercial agreements to deliver the proposed solutions
- a duplicate of existing innovation

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

Scope themes – Strand 3

Strand 3 only

Your project can focus on one or more of the following maritime transport themes:

- maintenance and inspection within the maritime transport sector
- improvements in port operations
- vessel design optimisation
- Smart Shipping safety and skills
- vessel operations optimisation
- vessel route-planning and scheduling for efficiency
- interaction with other transport modes, maritime being the clear focus
- assurance systems including establishing processes, measurements, systems and risk based approaches to assure the safety and operational competence of Smart Shipping systems

Strand 3 only

In addition, one or more of the following Smart Shipping areas must be a core part of the proposed work:

- data: including using data captured in a novel way or as part of an innovative approach, solution or product
- Artificial Intelligence (AI): including the use of AI either as new AI development, or as a novel application of existing AI
- automated systems: including the development of automated solutions, both hardware and software
- connectivity and Position Navigation and Timing (PNT): including innovative use of telecommunications systems such as future networks, hybrid network systems and satellite networks. Innovative PNT devices and solutions, including quantum technology.
- Quantum Computing (QC): including using QC to improve existing solutions, products or to develop a new QC approach or solution
- sensing or monitoring solutions: including the use of innovative devices and systems to provide sensing capability or the ability to monitor a system or vessel, this includes quantum technologies
- digital twins: including creating digital models of real world systems or objects enabling bi-directional feedback

Strand 3 only

We are not funding projects that are:

- focusing on non-Smart Shipping technologies or skills
- focusing only on fossil fuel powertrains of maritime vessels
- focusing on marine conservation and ecology
- focusing on on-vessel power generation to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG's), for example, wind turbines and solar panels
- focusing on non-methanol biofuels, except for projects strictly focused on inland waterway vessels and Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM), which includes port-side machinery
- focusing on nuclear technologies
- focusing on Personal Watercraft (PWC)
- focusing on the use and production of synthetic fuels, note: this exclusion does not apply to methanol, ammonia and hydrogen fuels
- focusing on submarines and submersible vessels
- focusing on military applications
- covered by existing commercial agreements to deliver the proposed solutions
- a duplicate of existing innovation

Eligibility criteria



Innovate
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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project

Strand 1: Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition 6: Pre-deployment trials

Your project must:

- have total costs of between £100,000 and £2 million
- intend to exploit the results from or in the UK
- start by 1 September 2025
- end by 31 March 2026

Strand 2: Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition 6: Feasibility Studies

Your project must:

- have total costs between £75,000 and £1 million
- intend to exploit the results from or in the UK
- start by 1 September 2025
- end by 31 March 2026

Strand 3: Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition 6: Smart Shipping

Your project must:

- have total costs between £75,000 and £1 million
- intend to exploit the results from or in the UK
- start by 1 September 2025
- end by 31 March 2026

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

This is relevant for all 3 strands

To lead a project your organisation must:

- be a UK registered business of any size
- collaborate with other UK registered organisations

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

[Academic institutions](#) cannot lead or work alone.

Trust ports and Municipal ports will be treated as businesses.

Eligibility Criteria – Project Team

This is relevant for all 3 strands

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 and completing their Project Impact questions in the application.

To be an eligible collaboration, the lead and at least one other organisation must apply for funding when entering their costs into the application.

Eligibility Criteria – Partners/Subcontractors

Non-funded partners

Your project can include non-UK partners, including partners based in the EU, who bring their own funding. Non-UK partners are permitted to carry out project work from within their home countries and exploit results overseas. Their costs will count towards the total eligible 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 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 – Number of applications

Number of applications

- A business can only lead on **one application across all three strands** of this competition.
- If leading an application, a business can also be included as a collaborator in two further applications across all three strands of this competition.
- If a business is not leading any application, it can collaborate in any number of applications.
- Other organisations can collaborate on any number of applications.
- If you are involved in more than one application, you must clearly state how all projects can be resourced and delivered if successful.
- If Innovate UK have concerns about your ability to deliver multiple projects successfully, we reserve the right to award funding based on evidence of capacity to manage them.
- If you are involved in other Innovate UK funded projects, you must show you have the resources in place to deliver further projects funded by this competition.

Previously submitted applications

This competition **does** allow you to submit a previously submitted application.

Previously submitted application	Not a Previously submitted application
<p>A previously submitted application is an application Innovate UK judges as <u>not</u> materially different from one you have submitted before (but it can be updated based on the assessors' feedback).</p> <p>If you have previously submitted an application that reached our assessment stage, you can re-apply once more with the same proposal.</p>	<p>A brand-new application, project or idea that you have not previously submitted into an Innovate UK competition.</p> <p>or</p> <p>A previously submitted or ineligible application which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has been updated based on assessor feedback• <u>and</u> is materially different from the application submitted before• <u>and</u> fits with the scope of this competition



Innovation Funding Service (IFS)

How to apply

The lead applicant must create an account:

UK registered businesses

Use Companies House lookup as it speeds up our checks by providing your company number. You are unable to enter this at a later date.

Research organisations, academics and universities

To avoid being listed as a business and to ensure you receive the correct funding, enter your information manually on IFS



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

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

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Create your account

Your organisation

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

Business

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

Companies House search results
Select your organisation from the options below

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

GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

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

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Please sign in or create an account

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

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

Innovation Funding Service Sign in

Email address
Please enter your email address.

Password
Please enter your password.

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

My email and/or password isn't working

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

[Forgotten your password?](#)

Application Questions

Detailed guidance available on IFS

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix inc. number of pages
Question 1	Applicant location (not scored)	400	No
Question 2	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 4	Need or challenge	600	No
Question 5	Approach and innovation	600	Yes- optional (up to 2 a4 pages)
Question 6	Team and resources	400	Yes- optional (up to 2 a4 pages)
Question 7	Market awareness	400	No
Question 8	Outcomes and route to market	600	No
Question 9	Wider impacts	400	No
Question 10	Project management	600	Yes – mandatory (up to 2 a4 pages)
Question 11	Risks	400	Yes – mandatory (up to 2 a4 pages)
Question 12	Knowledge sharing and clean maritime market development	400	No
Question 13	Added value	400	No
Question 14	Costs and value for money	400	No

Project Impact questions

- Each organisation in your application will complete the Project Impact questions within the 'Supporting information' section
- The Project Impact questions ask for data about your business and innovation and its contribution to the UK economy, society, and the environment
- Visit the [Project Impact guidance](#) page for more information, the types of questions you will be asked and how to get further support
- By providing this data, you are enabling us to better understand the impact of our support. It will help us identify success stories and provide evidence to government and the public of the value of supporting innovative businesses



For more information:

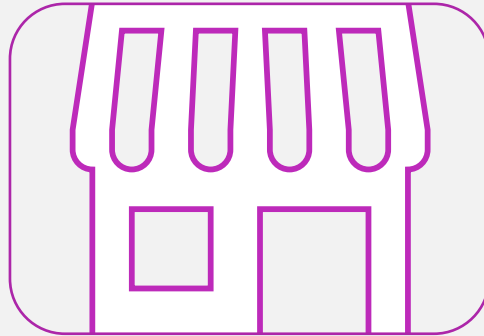
- [Watch Our Impact Management Framework video](#)
- [How is the Project Impact data collected? video](#)

Your Project Cost Categories

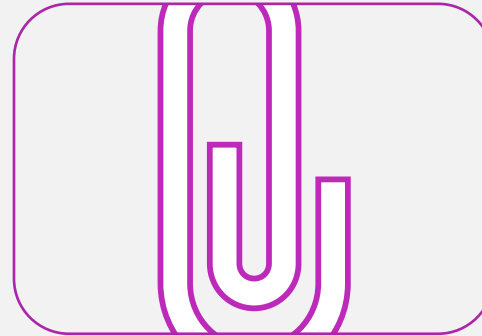
View our [Application Finances Instructional Video](#)



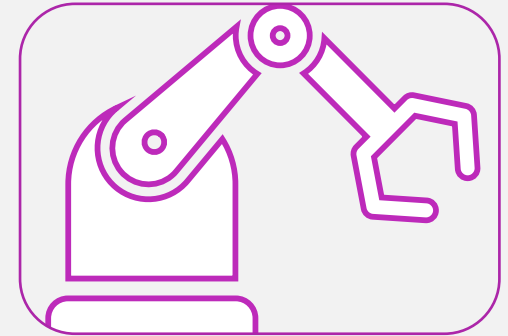
Labour



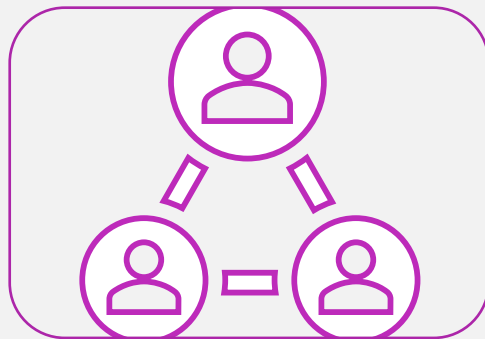
Overheads



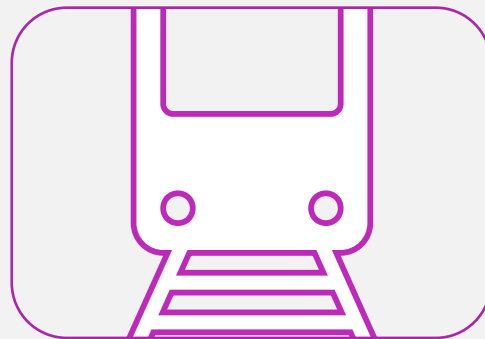
Materials



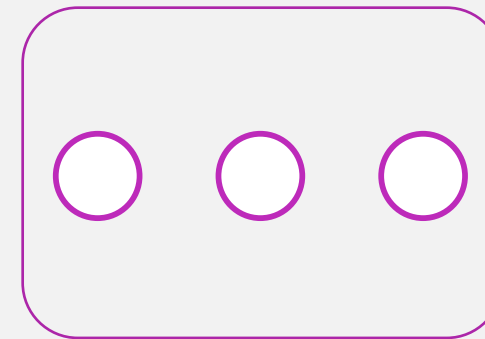
Capital Usage



Subcontractors



Travel &
Subsistence




Other

Your project finances

Finances

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


[Your project finances](#)

 Incomplete

[Finances overview](#)


 Incomplete

Finances


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

Please complete your project finances.


[Your project costs](#)

 Incomplete


[Your project location](#)

 Incomplete

[Your organisation](#)

 Incomplete

[Your funding](#)

 Incomplete

Your project costs

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

Your project location

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

Your organisation

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

Your funding

Include your funding level percentage according to the competition's funding rules. Only declare Other Public Sector Funding here if you have previously received public money for **exactly** the same activities

*

Your funding

Untitled application

Your funding

Are you requesting funding?

Yes

No

Other funding

Have you received an award from any source for the same project, costs or activities in the last three financial years? (The current financial year and the two financial years immediately preceding it.)

You will be asked to provide details of other funding on the following page.

Yes

No

Save and return to project finances

- Other funding - answer Yes if you have received funding FOR THE SAME project activities. We cannot fund the same project activities twice.
- Anything that you declare in the Other funding field will be deducted from your Funding sought total.
- This will NOT be visible to you in the Finance Summary in IFS.

Your funding

Details of other funding

Source of funding

Project

Competition or funding applied (optional)
For example, Smarts grant, ATI

Date secured

Funding amount (£)

[Add another source of funding](#)

Total other funding £0

[Mark as complete](#)

[Save and return to project finances](#)

Finance summary

This is a breakdown of your project costs and sources of funding for this project.

Total costs (£)	Funding level (%)	Funding sought (£)	Contribution to project (£)	Other public sector funding (£)
444,000	70.00	310,800	133,200	50,000

[Return to application overview](#)

IMPORTANT:

Above is an example of the Finance summary. If you declare Other public sector funding, as circled in purple, it does not deduct from your Funding sought total in IFS.

However, this amount will be deducted from your funding request by Innovate UK and may make you ineligible.

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

The lead must ensure that all partners have marked their finances as complete.

Research organisation participation is no greater than 30% of the total project costs for strand 1 and 50% for strands 2 and 3.

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](#)



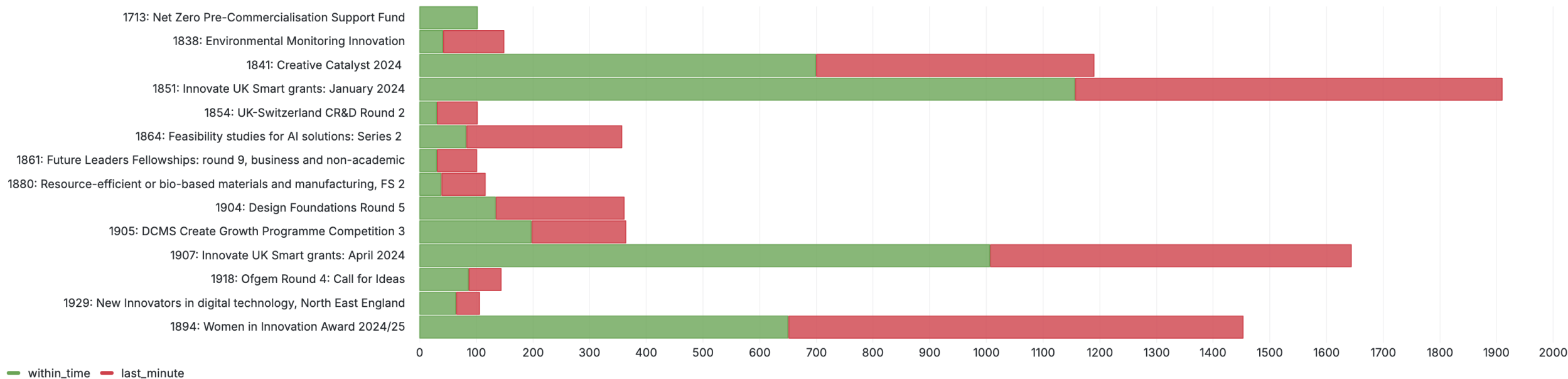
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

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.



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

Whilst AI offers many benefits, it is important you are aware that **you are potentially sharing your idea with the world**, so be careful what you share as you have no control over how it is shared on once you do.

Funding Rules



Other Innovate UK projects

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

We will not award you any further funding if you:

- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and were awarded funding by Innovate UK, but did not make a substantial effort to exploit that award
- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and failed to comply with grant terms and conditions.

Compliance with the UK Subsidy Control Regime

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

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

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

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

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

Subsidy Control (and State aid where relevant)

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

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

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

Financial viability and eligibility

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

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

Article 10 of the Windsor Framework

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

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

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

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

Undertakings in difficulty

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

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

Research, Development and Innovation Streamlined Subsidy Scheme

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

Category 1: Feasibility Studies

For feasibility studies projects, you could get funding for your eligible project costs of:

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

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

For a detailed definition of feasibility studies see [guidance document section 13.1](#).



Category 2: Industrial Research

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

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

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

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





Assessment





Assessment


[YouTube Playlist](#)

- 

1 **How do our assessors assess?**
Innovate UK • 8.1K views • 2 years ago
2:33
- 

2 **How are successful applications selected for funding?**
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- 

3 **What steps are there before a project starts?**
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3:45
- 

4 **How are successful projects monitored?**
Innovate UK • 4.1K views • 2 years ago
2:20
- 

5 **How successful applicants receive their funding.**
Innovate UK • 4.6K views • 2 years ago
2:51



Project setup

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

These are:

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

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

You are expected to complete all the steps above within 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.

Additional Support



Innovate UK Business Growth

<https://iuk.ktn-uk.org/business-growth/>

Innovate UK Business Growth (previously Innovate UK EDGE) is a key part of the UK innovation agency's deep investment in the pioneering businesses that drive economic growth. It is a publicly-funded service available to all high potential small to medium sized innovation-driven companies, including Innovate UK grant winners.

Exploit Innovation:

Grow your business by protecting your IP, improving innovation management and accessing the innovation ecosystem globally through us.

Source funding:

Grow and scale your business by accessing the right finance and funding for you and becoming investment ready.

Enter new markets:

Helping you to make connections to partners and leverage insights to expand into vertical and international markets and achieve scaling ambitions.

Ready to scale?

The Innovate UK Scaleup Programme helps the highest potential businesses realise their ambitions.



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](#).

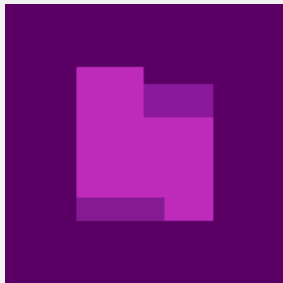
Innovate UK reserves the rights to host competitions on a needs basis and will adjust each competition criteria and scope accordingly. We may occasionally run closed competitions that are for invited applicants only. These are run based on the challenge requirement or need.

Contact

Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org



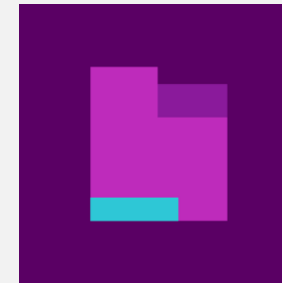
Innovate UK

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