ADOPT Grants

- ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant – Round 2
- Full ADOPT Grant – Round 2

Applicant Briefing

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

Welcome and Introductions

Steph Armitage, Competition Manager

Chris Lyons, Innovation Lead

UKRI Innovate UK

Agenda

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

UKRI Innovate UK

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Innovate UK

Farming Innovation Programme - ADOPT

Enhancing productivity, environmental sustainability and resilience in England's farming sectors

Chris Lyons
Innovation Lead

Why are we supporting innovation?

Productivity: The UK has seen lower productivity growth than our neighbours over the last 30 years

Environment: Agriculture accounted for 10% of UK greenhouse gas emissions in 2018

Fragmentation: many fantastic researchers, innovative businesses and promising ideas, but players don't necessarily collaborate effectively

Coordination: failures in the current innovation system result in poor translation of public spending into real life impacts on productivity/sustainability

Adoption: Low levels of uptake of innovation by farmers, growers, businesses in large part due to capital risk & ineffective knowledge sharing

Previous Programmes

2013 - Agri-Tech Strategy
£70m Agri-tech Catalyst
£90m for 4 Agri-tech Centres

2018 - Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) £90m Transforming Food Production Challenge.

2021 - £14.5m **Farming Innovation Pathways** fund.

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https://farminginnovation.ukri.org/

The Farming Innovation Programme

- Part of Defra's Agricultural Transition Plan
- To enhance productivity, environmental sustainability and resilience in England's farming sectors
- Funding is awarded on a competitive basis to high quality, innovative projects
- Collaborative projects must benefit farmers and growers in England

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The **Farming Innovation Programme** offers a range of opportunities for farmers, growers, businesses and researchers to collaborate on industry-led research and development:

Small **Research Starter Projects** where farmers, growers & foresters can explore a new idea

Feasibility projects where businesses can check if a research idea works in practice.

Small/Large Partnership Projects, where businesses can further develop a new farming product or service towards commercialisation.

Themed competitions (Farming Futures R&D Fund), where businesses and researchers can work on longer-term innovation focussing on issues like: Climate-Smart Farming, Sustainable farm-based Proteins, Robotics and Automation, Environmental resilience or Nutrient Management

ADOPT Fund where farmers can trial on-farm new innovations, practices or technologies

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https://farminginnovation.ukri.org/

ADOPT

Accelerating Development of Practices and Technologies Fund

- ✓ **NEW type of funding –** Focussed at on-farm trials and demonstration.
- ✓ **Farmer focused –** First time it has been made mandatory for farmers to both **Lead** and **Partner** on funded projects.
- ✓ **Significant support –** ADOPT Support Grant, ADOPT Support Hub & IUK Business Connect Project Facilitator database to provide **FREE** practical and expert advice to participants, plus Innovate UK Customers Services.
- ✓ **Multiple competition rounds –** Current plan to run competitions consecutively for two years.
- ✓ **Simplified systems**

COLLABORATION - COLLABORATION - COLLABORATION

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Adoption of on-farm technologies

ADOPT

Summary

2 Strands

1. Facilitator Support Grant
2. Full Grant

Total Project Costs

1. Support Grant £2,500
2. Project trials £50K-£100K

Duration

1. Up to 6 months
2. Between 6–24 months

Lead must be a farming, growing or forestry business of any size **based in England**

1. For support developing an ADOPT Full grant application
2. For on-farm trials and demonstrations of existing solutions

A support grant is <u>not</u> required before applying for the Full grant

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ADOPT

Accelerating Development of Practices and Technologies Fund

- Two grants - the **Facilitator Support Grant** and the **ADOPT Full Grant,** these are designed to make ADOPT funding accessible to a wider range of applicants.
- ADOPT Support Hub and IUK Business Connect Project Facilitator database to provide practical and expert advice to participants.
- ADOPT is focussed on collaborative, smaller-scale, farmer-led projects to address immediate on-farm productivity and sustainability challenges.
- Projects will trial, test and demonstrate the on-farm viability of new and existing technologies, processes and practices for the benefit of the sector.
- Successful projects will last up to 2 years and have total project costs between £50K-£100K.

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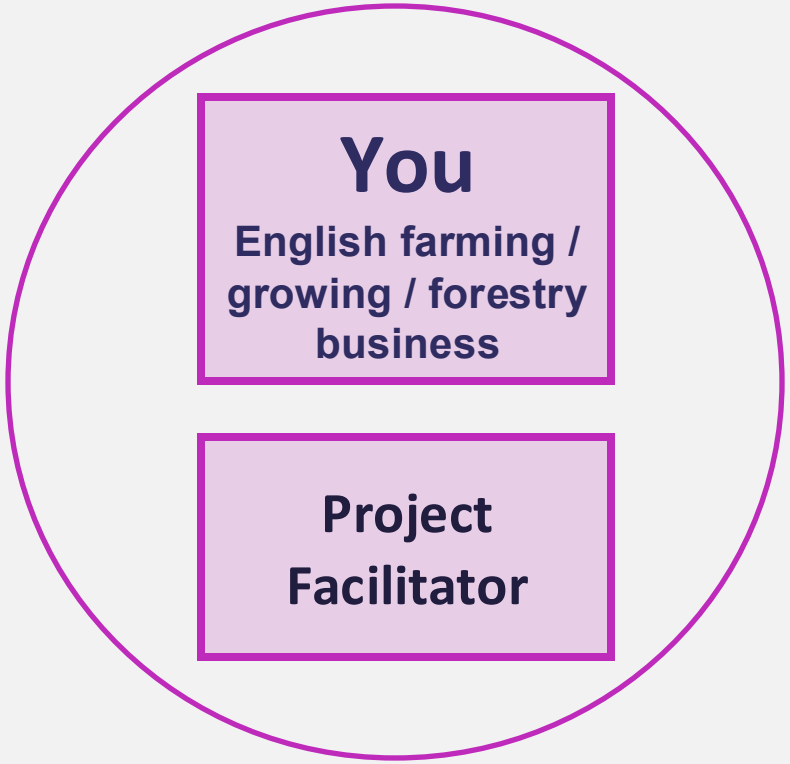
ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant

Explain your idea for a farm trial

No detailed plan or budget required

£2,500 grant



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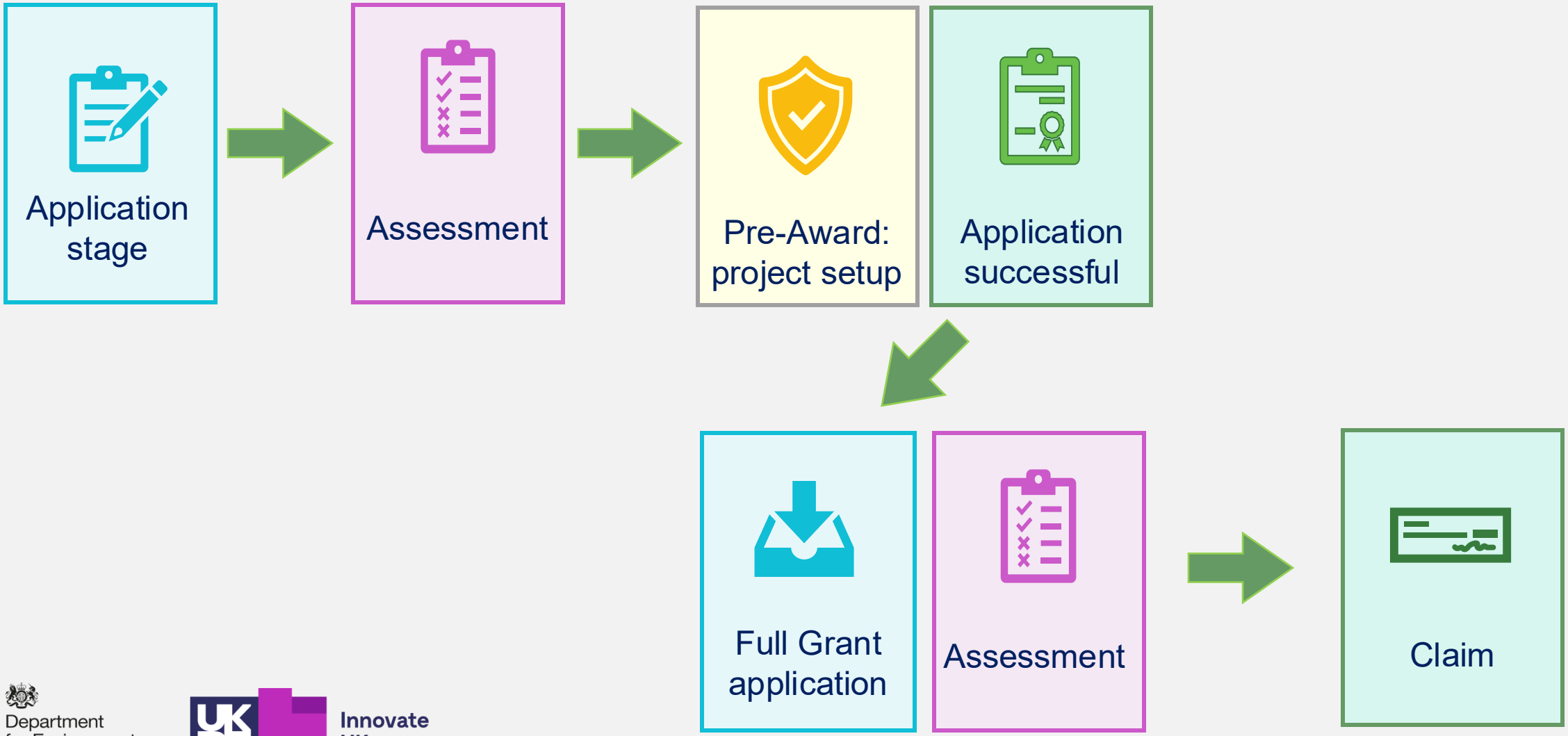
ADOPT: Facilitator support grant application process



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ADOPT Full Grant

Same on farm trial idea

Project plan now required
What? Why? How? When?

Detailed budget required

Funding
£50K - £100K costs

Who is in the Collaborative Team

You
English farming / growing / forestry business

Other
farming / growing / forestry businesses

Project Facilitator

Mandatory

Research or Technical Partners
University / Research Organisation / Business

Optional

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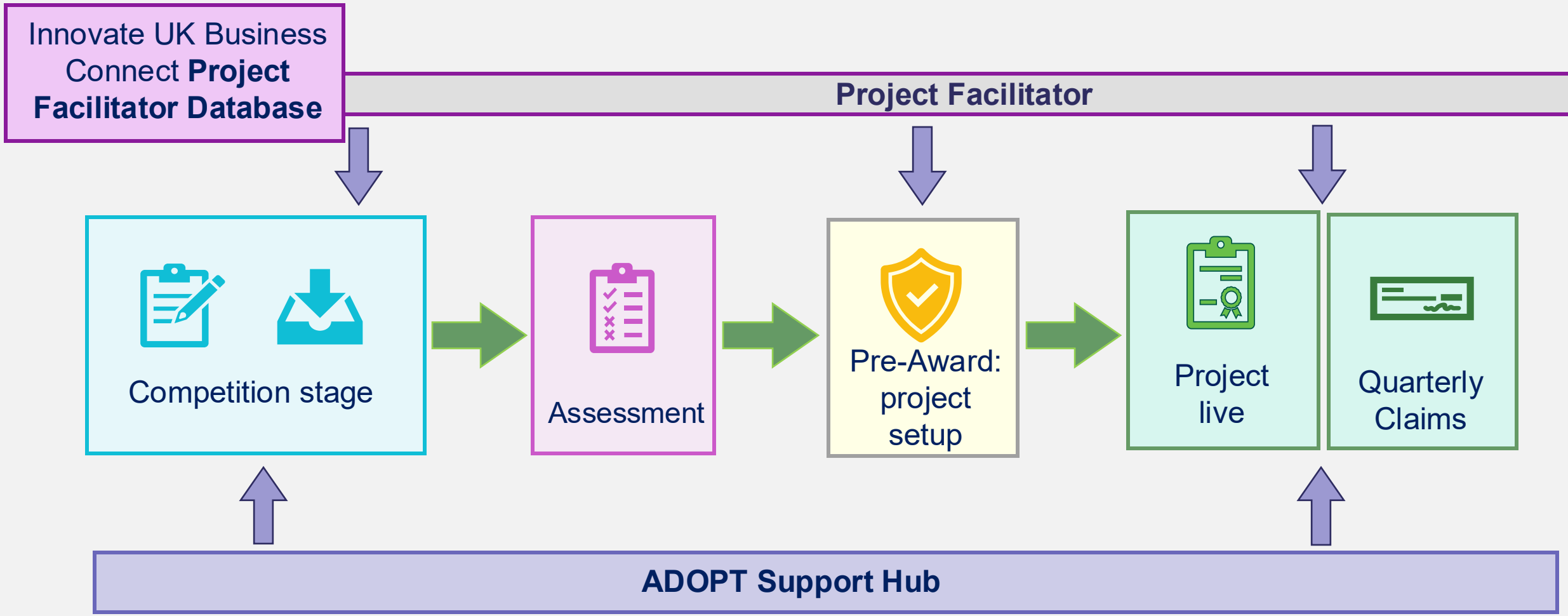
ADOPT: Full Grant application process



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Scope

In Scope

Address major on-farm or immediate post farmgate challenges or opportunities. Solutions being trialled **must** significantly **improve:**

- ✓ productivity
- ✓ resilience
- ✓ sustainability and progression towards net zero emissions

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Scope

Exclusions, we are not funding projects that:

× do not benefit farmers, growers or foresters in England

× are based on funded crop variety plot trials

× are based on existing demonstration trials or projects

× are for the production of crops or plants for medicinal or pharmaceutical use

× are for cultivated meat

× are based on equine systems

× involve wild caught fisheries

× involve aquaculture, such as algae and seaweed, fermentation systems for bacteria, yeast or fungi for human consumption

Specific Themes

Address a significant **industry challenge or opportunity** in at least one of the below:

- ✓ Agriculture
- ✓ Horticulture
- ✓ Agro-forestry

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ADOPT Sources of support

Pre-application:

- ADOPT Support Hub
- Innovate UK Business Connect Project Facilitator database
- Project Facilitator

Grant opportunities

- Facilitator Support Grant
- ADOPT Full Grant

Live ADOPT Farm Trial projects

- Project Facilitator*
- IUK Monitoring Officer
- ADOPT Support Hub

*Project Facilitator is funded as part of claimable project costs

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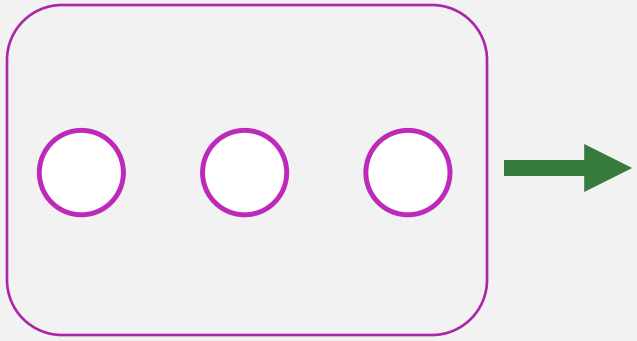
Facilitator Support Grant: Finances



Other

You must **only** submit in the other costs section the name of the Project Facilitator you intend to work with to submit your Full ADOPT Grant application.

You must enter the total costs of £2,500 as part of this section.

Other costs	£2,500 –
Description and justification of the cost	**Estimated cost (£)**
My Facilitator	2,500
Total other costs	£2,500

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Full Grant: Finances

All other organisations, inc standard businesess:

- Use standard general guidance and fill in costs as they normally would for any other IUK project
- Academics and other Je-S registered partners should use the Je-S system as normal.

https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/costs-we-fund/

Farmers only:

- Farmers are able to calculate their trial expenses based upon labour day/ hourly rate or rate x Hectare
- All applicable costs can be rolled in to one single cost and entered in “Other Costs” category which is validated during the set-up stage and will be accepted at claims stage.
- i.e. use of tractor to cultivate a field, time for a farmer to operate the tractor, operating costs such as fuel and maintenance, cost of using other machinery, fertilisers, seed etc
- It’s possible to claim professional memberships relevant to the project.

https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/guidance-for-specific-funds/adopt-funding-guidance/

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Where to go for help

ADOPT SUPPORT HUB

Delivered by **ADAS**, **UK Agri-Tech Centre** and **The Soil Association,** aim to help farmers, growers and foresters to understand more about the programme, connect with experts, access funding and make on-farm trials a success.

0800 9878006 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm)
ADOPT Support | FarmPEP | adoptsupport@adas.co.uk

Innovate UK Business Connect Project Facilitator database
https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/adopt-project-facilitators/

Innovate UK Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org

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Eligibility criteria

- Facilitator Support Grant
- Full Grant

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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project –ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 2

Your project must:

To be eligible to apply for this competition, you must:

- engage with an external Project Facilitator that is registered in the Innovate UK Business Connect database
- work with the facilitator to develop and submit an eligible application for a Full ADOPT Grant competition

If you are successful in this competition you will need to provide evidence within six months of the funding being awarded that your Full ADOPT Grant application has been sent for assessment.

A total of £2,500 will be awarded per successful participant once the claim and evidence is submitted.

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation – ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 2

Lead organisation:

To lead a project your organisation must:

- be an active farming, growing or forestry business of any size based in England
- be able to evidence that you are an established commercial business, including sole traders and partnerships
- have a UK bank account

More information on the different types of organisation can be found in our Funding rules.

Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Partners/Subcontractors – ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 2

Subcontractors

Subcontractors are not allowed in this competition.

Project Facilitator

The Project Facilitator is the person who will be working with you to submit a Full ADOPT Grant application. They must be registered in the Innovate UK Business Connect database.

You must only include in the ‘other costs’ line of the finance section the name of the Project Facilitator you will be working with and the maximum grant amount of £2,500.

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Number of applications – ADOPT Facilitator Support Grant: Round 2

Number of applications

A farmer, grower or forester can only lead on one application per competition round and receive a maximum of two Facilitator Support Grants in total.

Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Your Project – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

Your project must:

- have total costs between £50,000 and £100,000
- last between 6 and 24 months
- intend to exploit the results from or in England
- carry out all of its project work in the UK
- embrace open innovation principles and be willing to share results with other farmers, growers or foresters
- have a Project Facilitator as part of the project team who is listed in the ADOPT Innovate UK Business Connect database

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

Lead organisation:

To lead a project your organisation must:

- be an active farming, growing or forestry business of any size **based in England**
- be able to evidence that you are an established commercial business, including sole traders and partnerships
- have a UK bank account
- collaborate with at least one other farming or growing businesses of any size, based in the UK

It is desirable that you also collaborate with other UK registered organisations.

More information on the different types of organisation can be found in our Funding rules.

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Eligibility Criteria – Collaboration – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

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.

Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Project Team – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

Project team

To collaborate with the lead, your organisation must be a farmer, grower or forester based in the UK .

You may also collaborate if you are a UK registered:

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

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Eligibility Criteria – Partners/Subcontractors – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

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.

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria – Number of applications – ADOPT Full Grant: Round 2

Number of applications

A farmer, grower or forester can only lead on one application but can be included as a collaborator in two further two applications.

If an organisation is not leading an application, it can collaborate in any number of applications

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Previously submitted applications

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

Previously submitted application	Not a Previously submitted application
A previously submitted application is an application Innovate UK judges as not materially different from one you have submitted before (but it can be updated based on the assessors' feedback). If you have previously submitted an application that reached our assessment stage, you can re-apply once more with the same proposal.	A brand-new application, project or idea that you have not previously submitted into an Innovate UK competition. or A previously submitted or ineligible application which: • has been updated based on assessor feedback • and is materially different from the application submitted before • and fits with the scope of this competition

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Innovation Funding Service (IFS)

How to apply

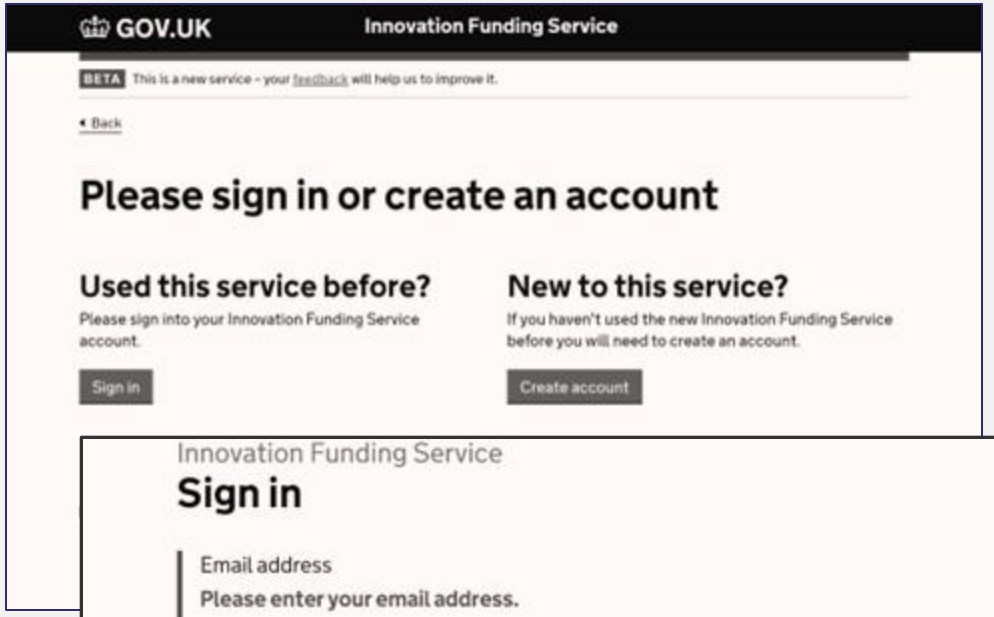
The lead applicant must create an account:

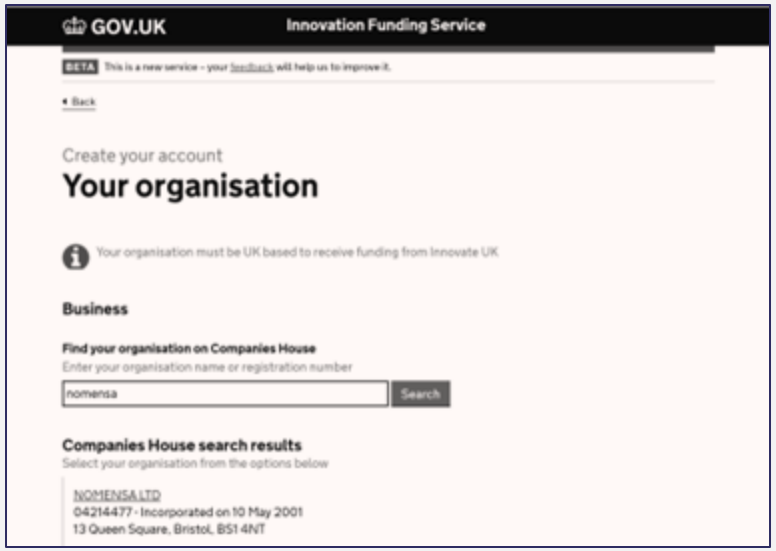
UK registered businesses

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





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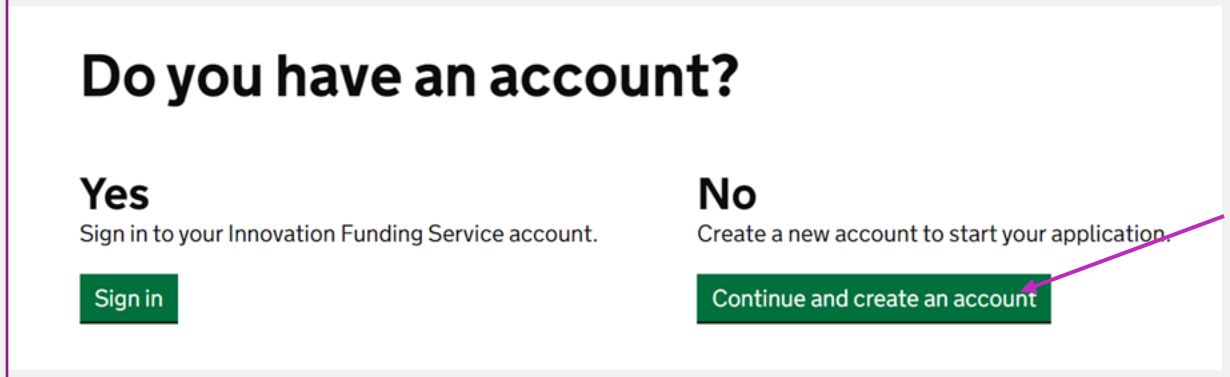
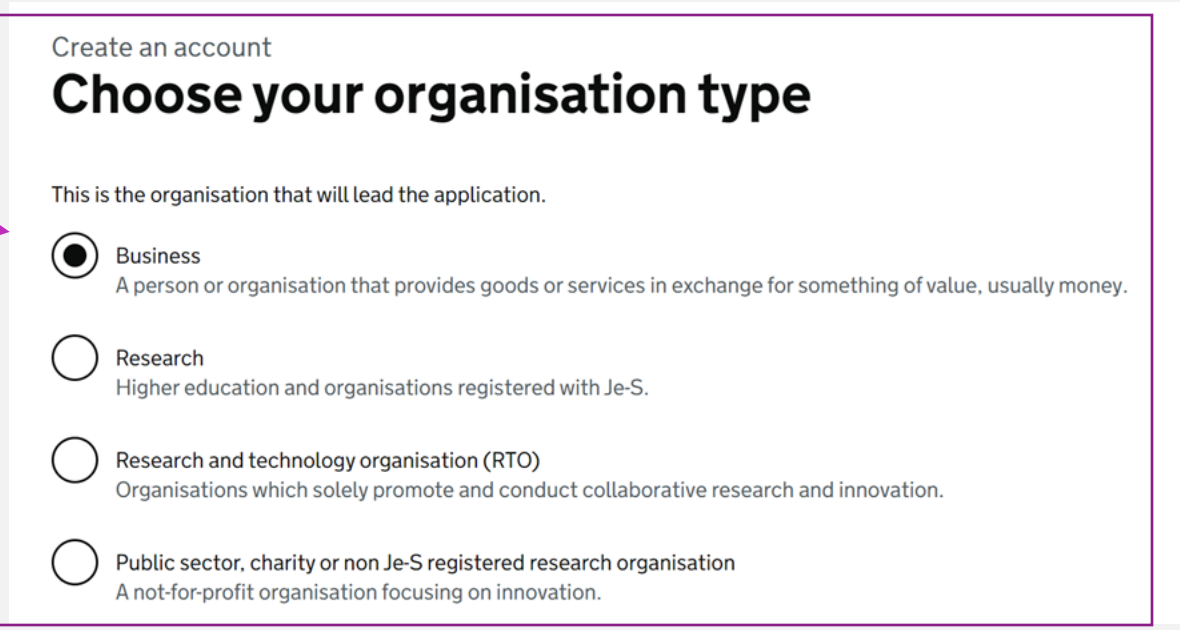
1) Click **Start New application**



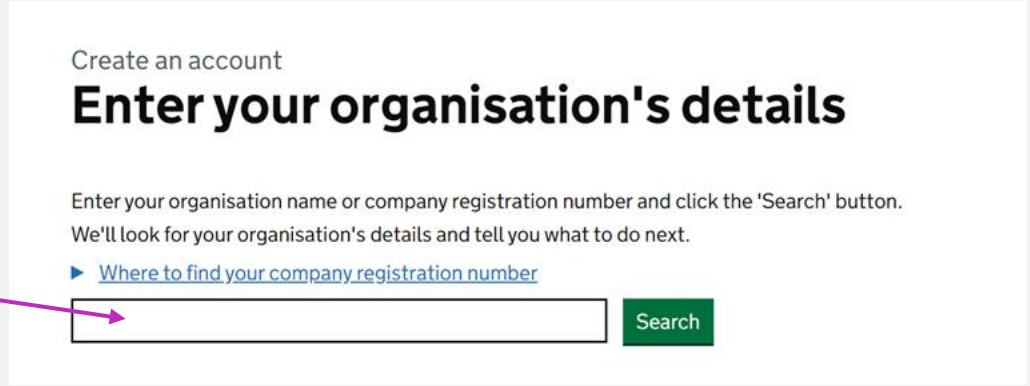
2) Click **No - Create new account to start your application**.

3) Click **Business** for organisation type



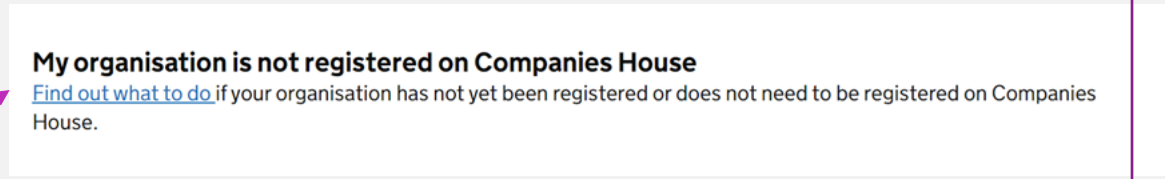
Innovate UK

4) The next page it will give “Enter your organisation’s details”. In the search box put a single digit and click **Search**



5) The next page will show a list of companies. And links to further pages of companies. **Ignore these**.

Look near the bottom of this page there is some text “My organisation is not Registered” Click **Find Out What To Do**



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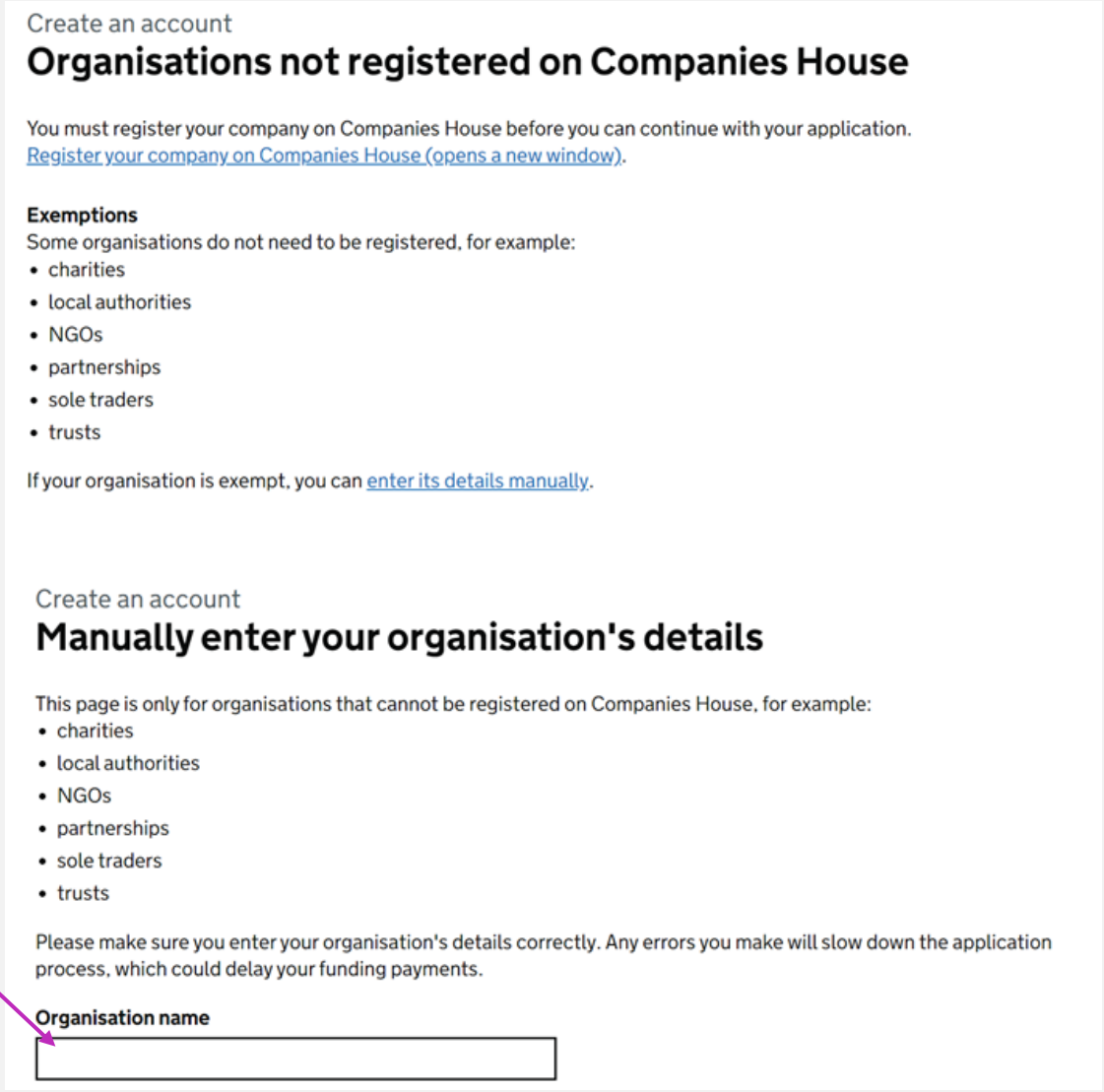
6) The next new screen will enable you to enter text manually into boxes with the company business details. Once completed these can be submitted and application started.



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Application Questions:
Support Grant

Detailed guidance available on IFS

Application Form		Word Count
Question 1	Location of the farmer, grower or forester who is the project lead for this application. (not scored)	250
Question 2	Tell us about you and your business (not scored)	250
Question 3	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice
Question 4	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice
Question 5	International collaboration (not scored)	250
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	250
Question 7	What is the idea or solution you have identified to trial on-farm?	250
Question 8	How will your idea or solution benefit other farmers, what improvements will it offer?	250
Question 9	Project Facilitator and Full ADOPT Grant team	250

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Application Questions: Full Grant

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	Farmers, growers or foresters details (not scored)	400	No
Question 5	International collaboration (not scored)	400	No
Question 6	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400	No
Question 7	What is the idea or solution you have identified to trial on-farm?	400	No
Question 8	How will you trial and test this idea or solution on-farm?	400	Yes - optional 1
Question 9	Team and resources for the trial	400	Yes - optional, 1
Question 10	Outcomes and impacts	400	No
Question 11	Adoption and communication of results	400	No
Question 12	Project management and risks	**600**	Yes - mandatory, 2
Question 13	Costs and value for money	400	No

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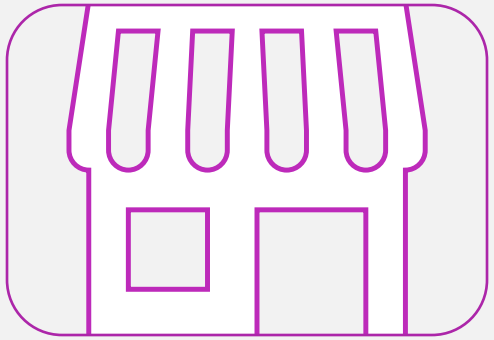
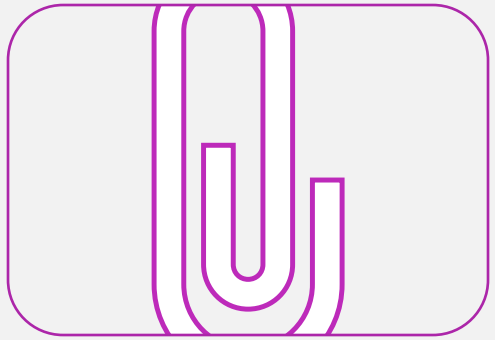
Your Project Cost Categories

View our Application Finances Instructional Video

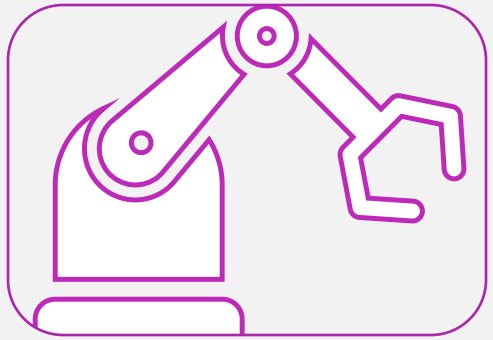
Labour



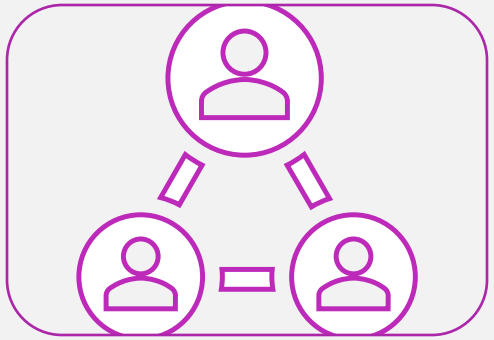
Overheads



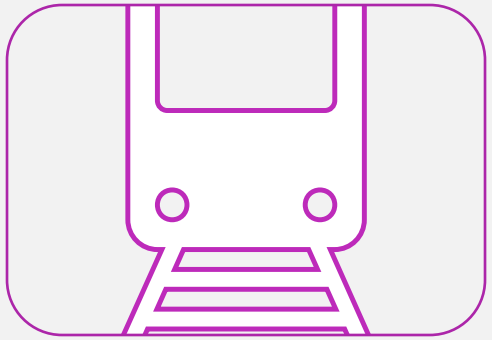
Materials



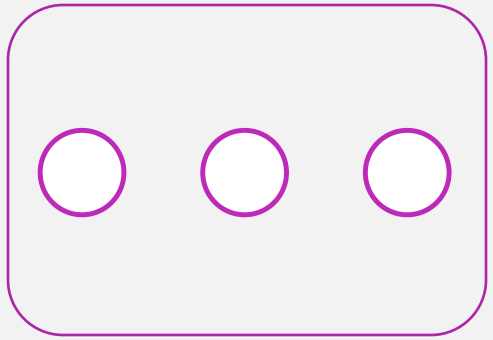
Capital Usage



Subcontractors



Travel & Subsistence



Other

Important for farmers, growers and foresters

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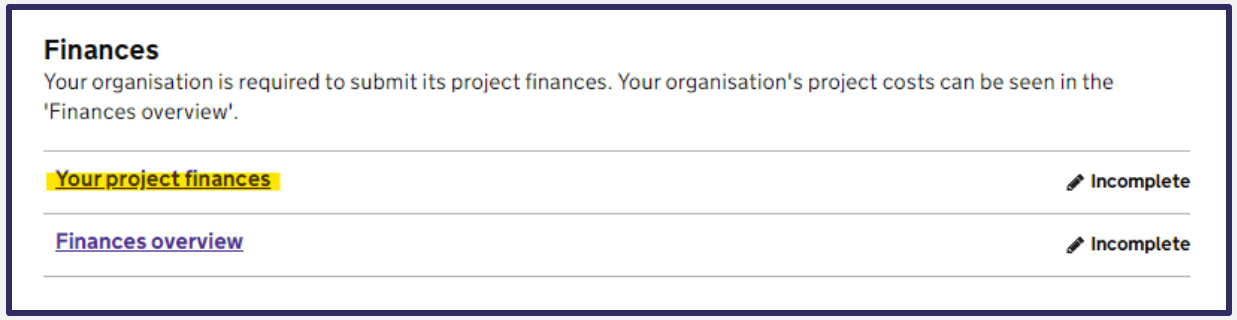
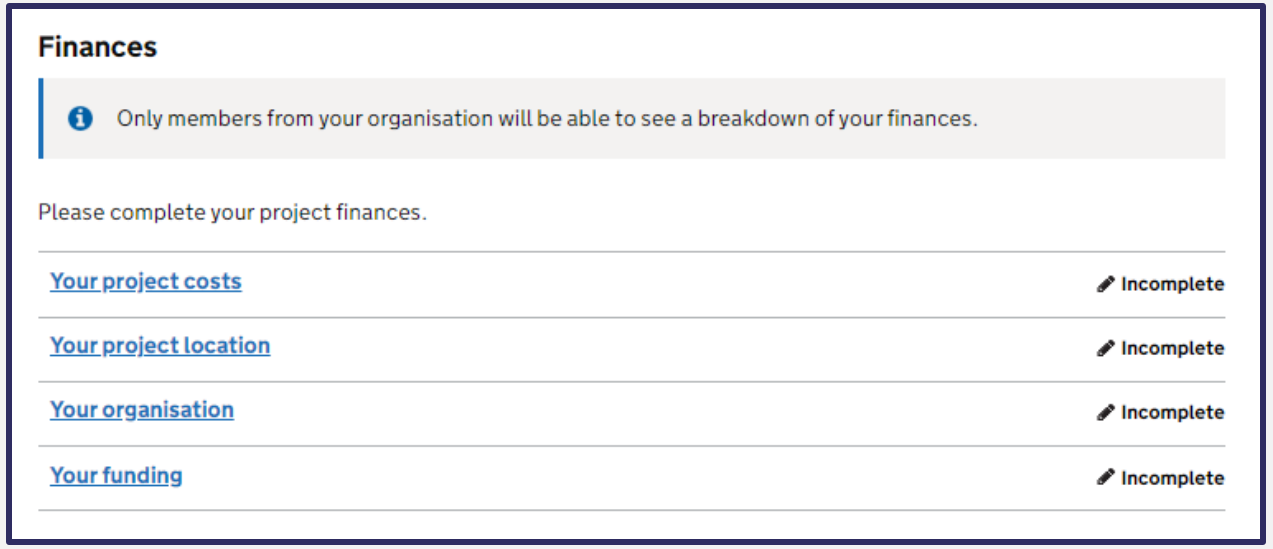
Your project finances





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

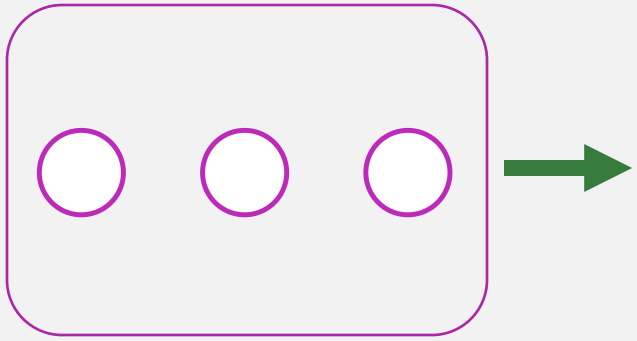
Your project location
Enter postcode for where most of the project work will take place.

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

Facilitator Support Grant: Finances



Other

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You must enter the total costs of £2,500 as part of this section.

Other costs	£2,500 –
Description and justification of the cost	**Estimated cost (£)**
My Facilitator	2,500
Total other costs	£2,500

UKRI Innovate UK

Full Grant: Finances

All other organisations, inc standard businesses:

- Use standard general guidance and fill in costs as they normally would for any other IUK project
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- It’s possible to claim professional memberships relevant to the project.

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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

Innovate UK

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

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

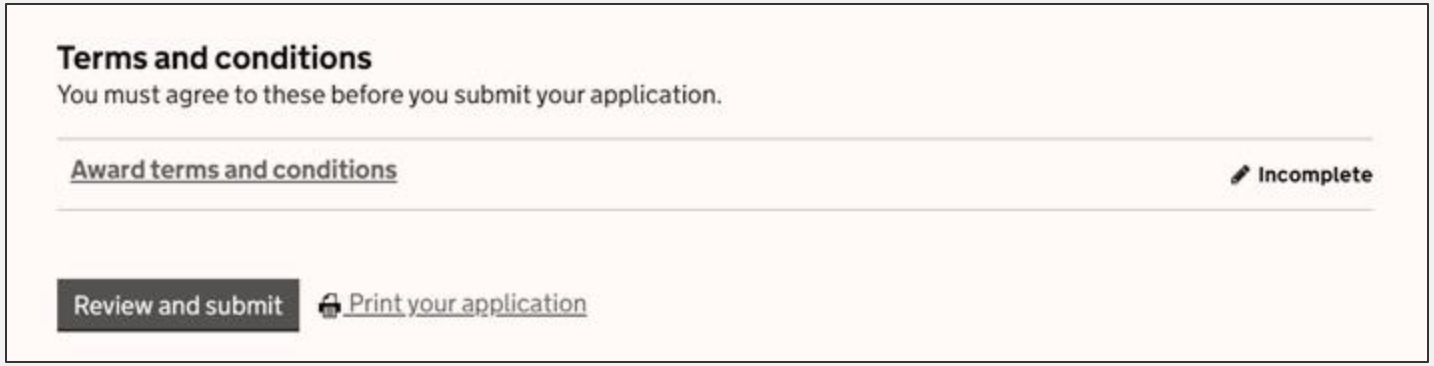
Full Grant Only:
Research organisation participation must be no greater than **60**% of the total project costs.

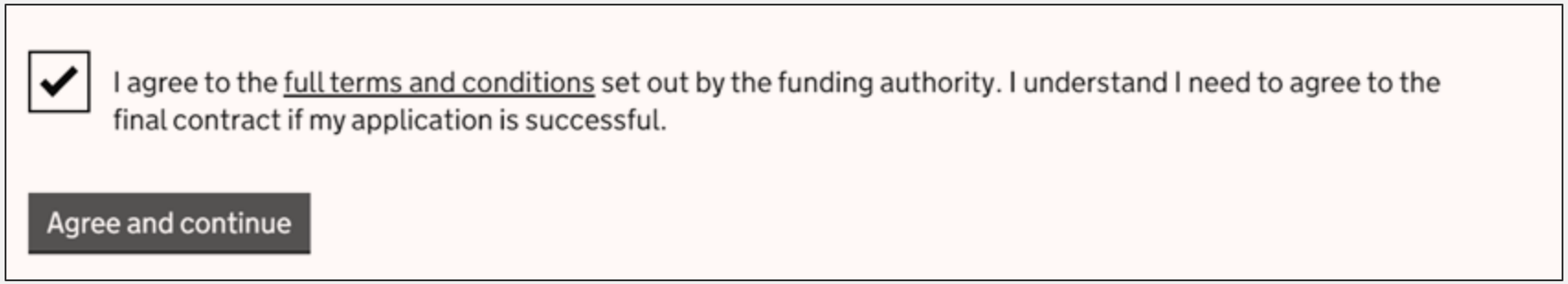
*** IFS DOES NOT VALIDATE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS**

Terms and Conditions

Before you can submit your application, **all** organisations in an application must agree to the draft terms and conditions for this competition.

Please ensure you share the T&Cs with your legal team at the earliest possible opportunity.



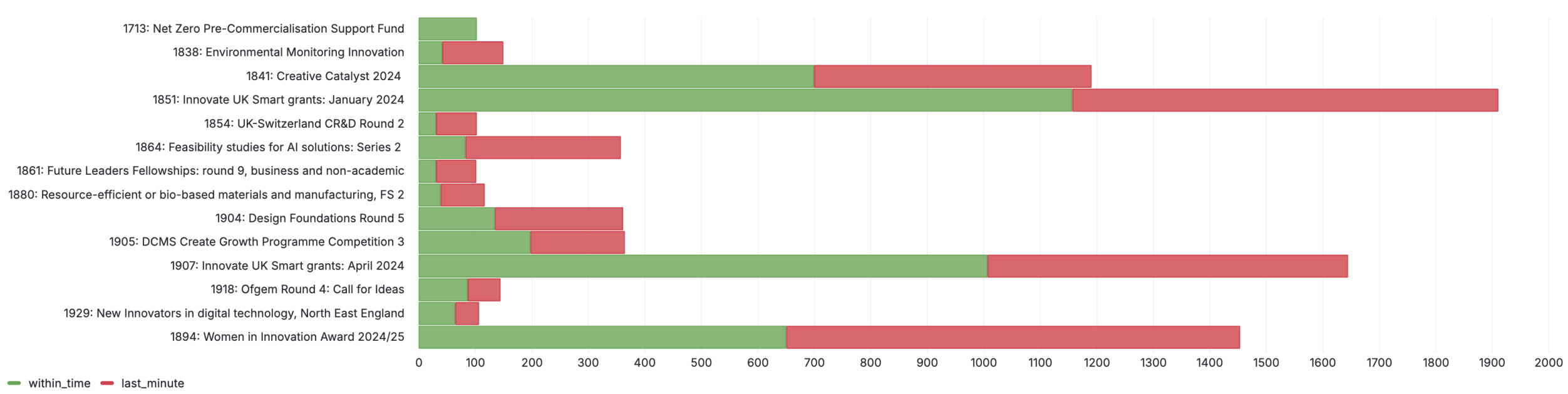


Innovate UK

Submitting your application

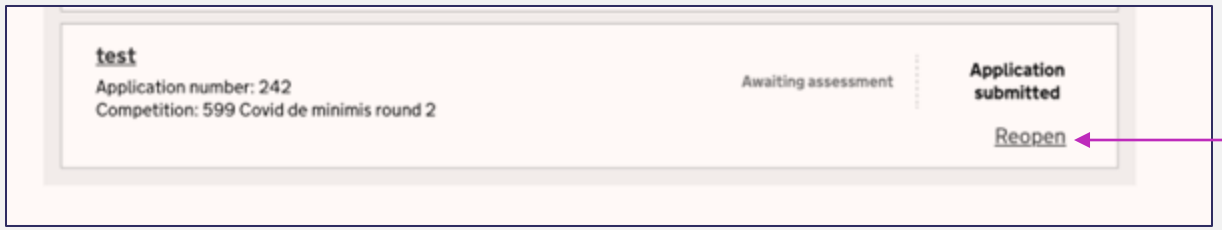
Customer Support can help resolve any issues you might have when submitting **but only if they are contacted before the deadline**.

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

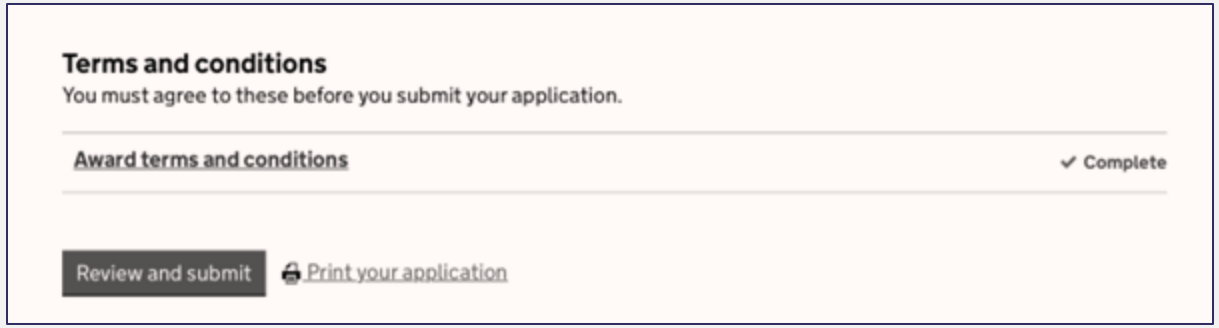


Innovate UK

Editing a submitted application



Reopen by clicking here



Remember to press ‘Submit application’

Innovate UK

Pros & Cons of using AI to support you

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

Pros

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

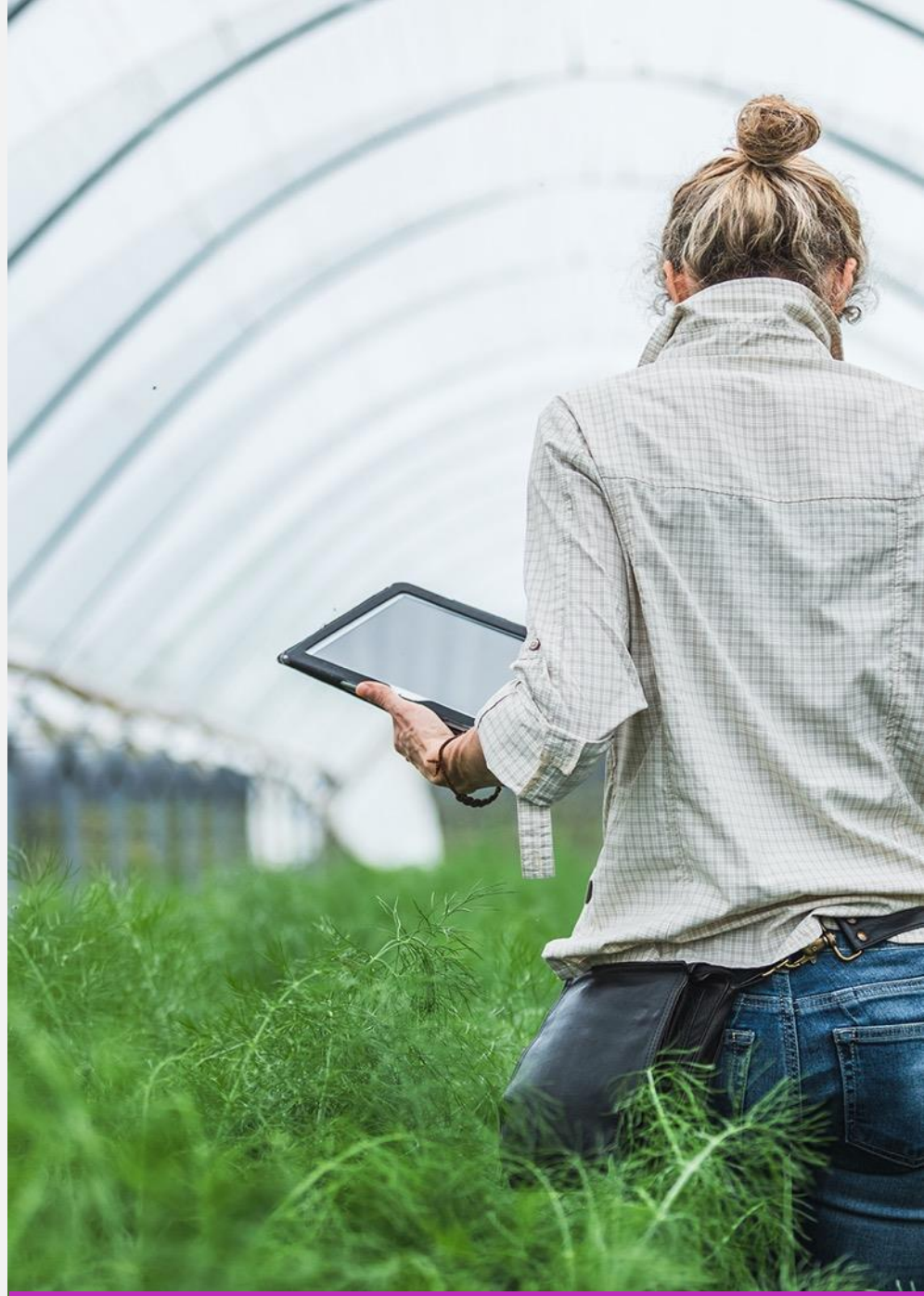
Cons

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

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.

UKRI Innovate UK

Funding Rules



UKRI Innovate UK

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.

UKRI Innovate UK

Compliance with the UK Subsidy Control Regime

On 4th January 2023, the Subsidy Control Act 2022 came into effect.

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

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

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

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

UKRI Innovate UK

Subsidy Control (and State aid where relevant)

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

1. is given by a public authority. This can be at any level: central, devolved, regional or local government or a public body.

2. makes a contribution (this could be a financial or an in-kind contribution) to an enterprise, conferring an economic advantage that is not available on market terms.

3. affects international trade.

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

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

General guidance on Subsidy control (and State aid where relevant).

UKRI Innovate UK

Article 10 of the Windsor Framework

The EU and the UK formally adopted the Windsor Framework on 24 March 2023.

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

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

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

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

Guidance on Article 10 of the Windsor Framework.

UKRI Innovate UK

Eligibility Criteria: Funding Opportunities

Organisation or type of activity	Facilitator Support Grant
Active farming, growing or forestry business based in England	Up to 100%

Organisation or type of activity	Full Grant
Active farming, growing or forestry business based in England, Wales or Scotland	up to 80%
active farming, growing or forestry businesses based in Northern Ireland	Up to 70%
Business (economic activity)	Micro or Small – 70% Medium – 60% Large – 50%
Research organisation (non-economic activity)	Universities – 100% (80% of Full Economic Costs) Other research organisations can claim 100% of their project costs
Public Sector Organisation or Charity (non-economic activity)	100% of eligible costs
Research organisations (undertaking economic activities) Organisations receive funding related to the size of their organisation	Micro or Small – 70% Medium – 60% Large – 50%

UKRI Innovate UK

Assessment

UKRI Innovate UK

Assessment

[YouTube Playlist]

1

How do our assessors assess?

Innovate UK • 8.1K views • 2 years ago

2

How are successful applications selected for funding?

Innovate UK • 17K views • 2 years ago

3

What steps are there before a project starts?

Innovate UK • 7.7K views • 2 years ago

4

How are successful projects monitored?

Innovate UK • 4.1K views • 2 years ago

5

How successful applicants receive their funding.

Innovate UK • 4.6K views • 2 years ago

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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.

For the Support Grant you are expected to complete all the steps above within 40 calendar days of receiving your notification.

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.

UKRI Innovate UK

Additional Support

UKRI Innovate UK

Useful Information

- UKRI's General Guidance and Who we fund
- Innovate UK Business Connect's Good Application Guide
- Collaboration Agreement Guidance: Lambert Toolkit
- Innovate UK: Shaping the Future
- Farming Innovation Programme website

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.

UKRI Innovate UK

Where to go for help

ADOPT SUPPORT HUB

Delivered by **ADAS**, **UK Agri-Tech Centre** and **The Soil Association,** aim to help farmers, growers and foresters to understand more about the programme, connect with experts, access funding and make on-farm trials a success.

0800 9878006 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm)
ADOPT Support | FarmPEP | adoptsupport@adas.co.uk

Innovate UK Business Connect Project Facilitator database
https://iuk-business-connect.org.uk/adopt-project-facilitators/

Innovate UK Customer Support Services

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

support@iuk.ukri.org

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Thank You

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@weareinnovateuk