



Innovate
UK

Contracts for Innovation: ProQure - Scaling UK Quantum Computing

Applicant Briefing

Date: 8 April 2026

The webinar will start at 2pm.

- 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

Abbie Wood - Competition Manager, Digital & Technologies

Abhinav Sharma - Lead, Quantum Technologies

Mareike Schmidt - Deputy Challenge Director of Quantum Technologies

Michael Cuthbert - Director – NQCC

Tom Doyle - Contracts for Innovation Team



Agenda

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



Advancing Quantum Computing in the UK

Overview



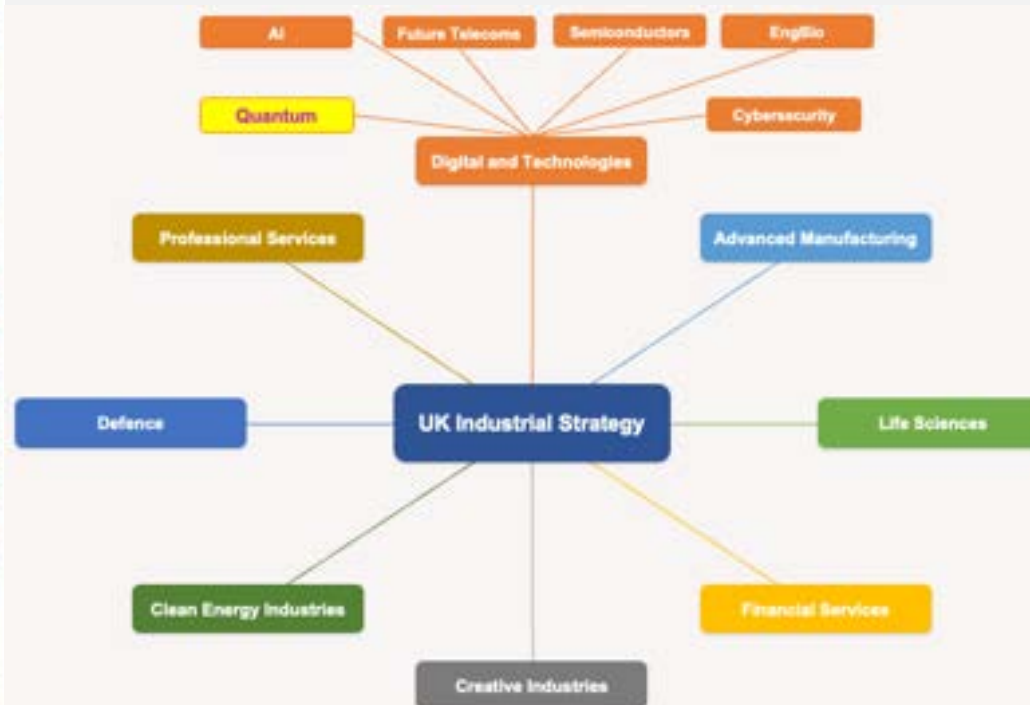
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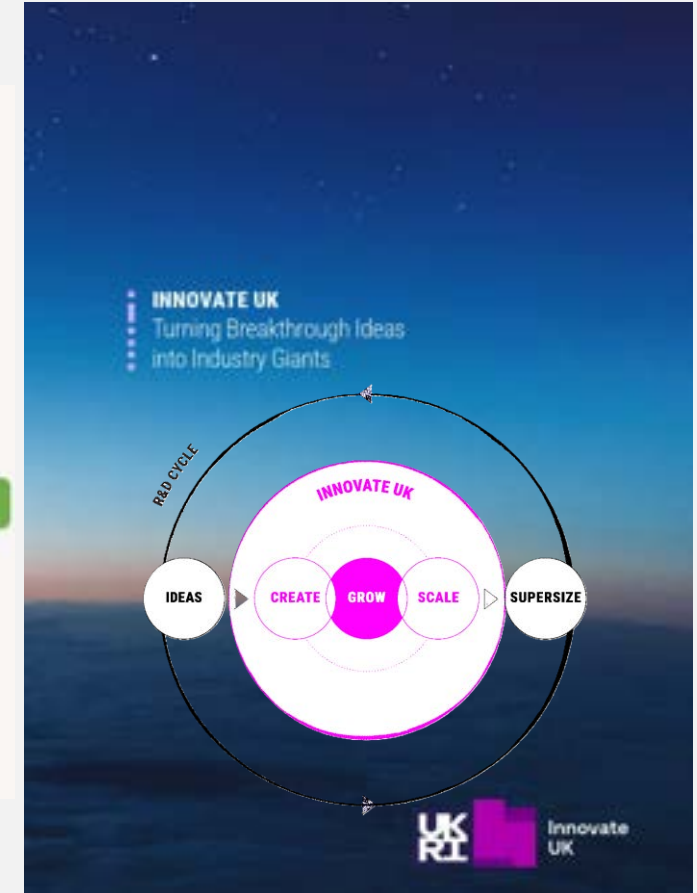
Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Quantum is a critical priority for Innovate UK & the UK Govt

Public support worth up to £2 billion to advance UK as a world leading economy for Quantum tech enabled science, products & services



Quantum computers would go on to become integral to UK's IT backbone & all 8 strategic industrial sectors



Innovate UK



Department for Science, Innovation & Technology

The Quantum Missions

Mission 1:

By 2035, the UK will have a quantum computer capable of 1 trillion operations.

Mission 2:

By 2030, we will deploy the world's most advanced quantum network to pioneer the quantum internet.

Mission 3:

By 2030, NHS Trusts will benefit from quantum sensing-enabled solutions.

Mission 4:

By 2030, quantum navigation (and clocks) to be deployed on aircraft to provide satellite-independent resilience.

Mission 5:

By 2030, we will have exploited quantum sensors across critical infrastructure.



Ensure the emerging tech paradigm of Quantum Tech can access the skills needed to develop and adopt quantum technologies the UK



Collaborate with our close international partners, building on the strengths of existing programmes and broadening international R&D collaborations to ensure mutual benefit.



Infrastructure, policy and ecosystem to make UK the best place to grow & scale a quantum company



Create a national and international regulatory framework that supports innovation and the ethical use of quantum technologies, and protects UK capabilities and national security



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Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

Competition Summary & Scope



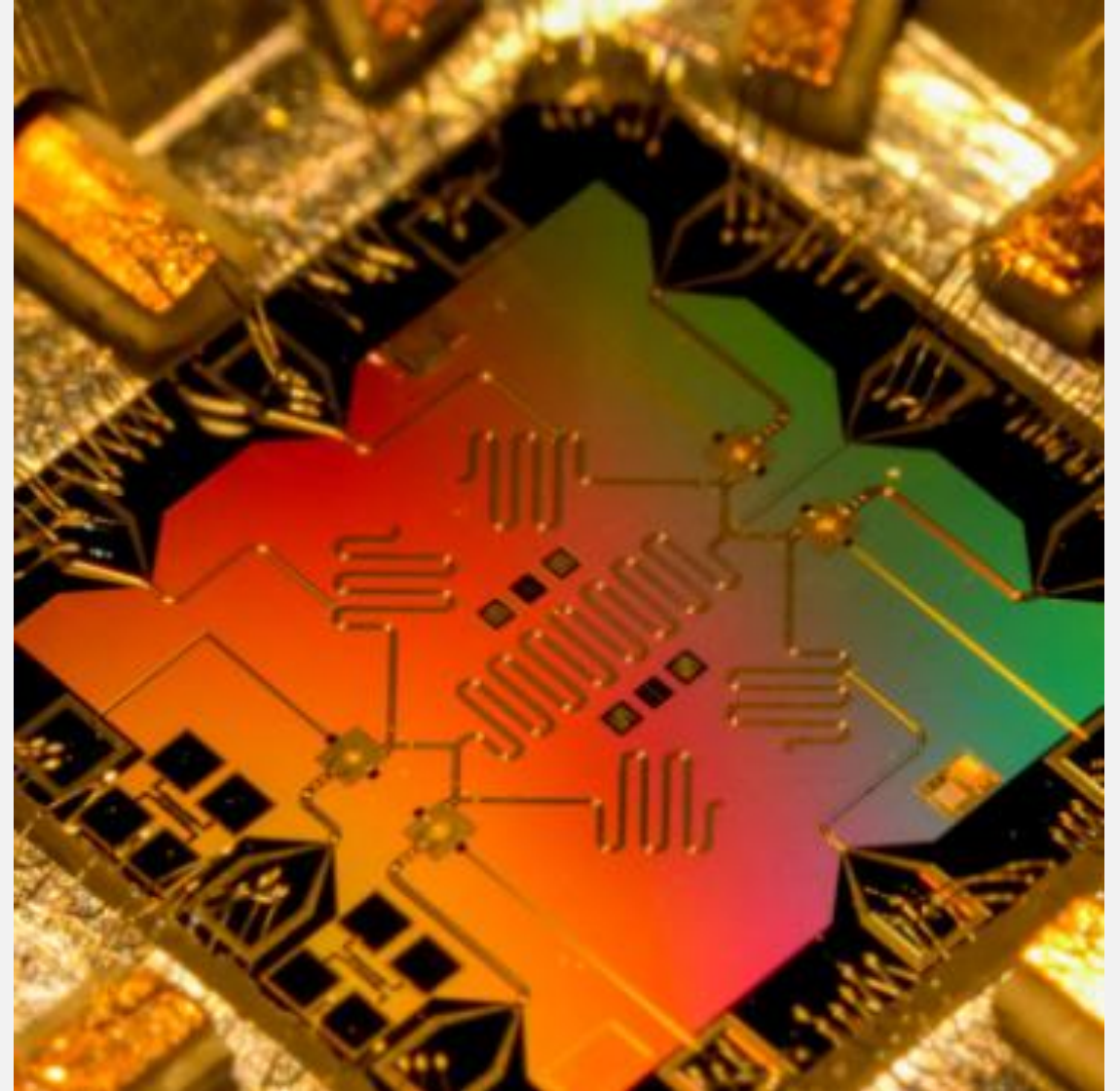
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The Vision

Realise an economy of quantum-enabled products & services — beyond the physical limits of classical photonic or electronic technology.

The quantum computing paradigm will:

- Become **integral to the UK's digital backbone** and advanced manufacturing base
- Unlock **productivity across economic sectors** to drive a thriving, resilient society
- Create **a uniquely novel value proposition** in the service of social prosperity and security



ProQure – Scaling UK Quantum Computing

Mission - Identify, grow and deploy world-leading quantum computing capabilities to drive economic growth and social impact.

Pathway for public-private partnerships

Up to £1 Billion

Multi-phase programme to support UK quantum computing, informing future public procurement of large-scale quantum computers beyond 2030

Phase 1

Up to £14M

Develop hardware, software solutions and operational roadmap. Up to 10 contracts awarded for 18–24-month projects

Phase 2

Up to £75M

Successful Phase 1 applicants invited to advance production readiness, scale, performance, and adoption of next-gen quantum computers

Phase 1 is a Contracts for Innovation competition to fund the delivery of pre-commercial milestones under the Procurement Act 2023 (R&D exemption). No solutions will be procured as part of the Phase 1 project.

Strategic Aims & Objectives of Phase 1

Four key aims driving Phase 1 of the ProQure programme

01

Validate Technologies & Architectures

Scale performance of current state-of-the-art quantum computers through rigorous technology validation

02

Deploy Operational Testbeds

Independent evaluation and verification through programmable testbed access.

03

Accelerate User Adoption

Grow user adoption and developer ecosystem through accessible quantum computing platforms

04

Enterprise & Industrial Growth

Accelerate enterprise operations and industrial capabilities for UK economic and societal impact

aims to inform a future public procurement of large-scale quantum computers beyond 2030

Phase 1 Overview

£14M

Maximum per
Project

10

Contracts
Expected

18–24

Months
Duration

50%+

Commercial R&D or
prototyping deliverables

Project Requirements

- Start: 1 October 2026
- End by: 30 September 2028
- Total costs: up to £14M inclusive of VAT
- UK presence/focus is essential
- Non-UK applicants must plan to establish UK presence or partner with a UK entity.

Competition Structure

- Contracts for Innovation (Procurement Act 2023)
- Contract award to single legal entity only
- Focus on validation of tech & architectures
- Submit an operational testbeds for verification, 3 months before final milestone
- Budget allocation remains subject to no. of high-quality proposals

Competition Open: 26 March 2026 | Closes: 29 May 2026 | Interviews: From 20 July 2026 | Project Start : 1 October 2026

Phase 1 is a Contracts for Innovation competition to fund the delivery of pre-commercial milestones under the Procurement Act 2023 (R&D exemption). No solutions will be procured as part of the Phase 1 project.

Phase 1 Scope & Deliverables

1. Technical, commercial and investment roadmap deliverables must demonstrate:

Hardware Improvements

Deliver step improvements to quantum computing system and fix key hardware dependencies

Performance Scaling

Scale performance and viability for target workloads and application outcomes

Software Stack

Full software stack: system software, instruction set, compilers, error correction

Algorithms Development

Develop practical algorithms for high-impact end-user applications

Deployment Specifications

for build, integration and commercial deployment

Route to Market

Include credible plan to build, deploy and market your full stack product offering

Contract milestones must include clear deliverables and reports with measurable targets — functional and technical designs, verification methods and test results

Phase 1 Scope & Deliverables

2. Operational Testbed must satisfy the below requirements and be delivered for independent verification before July 2028

System Level Operation

Operate as a programmable testbed for running quantum algorithms or analogue quantum processes

Software Environment

Provide defined software environment for experienced users at firmware, pulse, gate or algorithm level

Live Monitoring

Feature a live system monitoring dashboard with functional and technical performance indicators

Documentation & Support

Include system definition, performance specs, build & delivery report, user training and guidance documentation

Projects We Will Not Fund

Exclusion criteria — applications failing any of these will not be considered

- ⚠ Do not use second-generation quantum technologies (coherent control, superposition, entanglement)
- ⚠ Do not deliver operational testbed access 3 months before Phase 1 end
- ⚠ Directly duplicate scope from other UK/international funded initiatives
- ⚠ Covered by existing commercial agreements
- ⚠ Propose disproportionate use of material, capital and other costs
- ⚠ Not mature in overall development and delivery capability
- ⚠ Do not evidence positive economic and societal impact outcomes
- ⚠ Do not have complete freedom to undertake, operate and exploit R&D in UK
- ⚠ Lack necessary resources to develop, operate and maintain a complete QC system in UK
- ⚠ Do not include delivery of significant and critical activities in the UK
- ⚠ Do not develop a viable UK supply base for future development and operations

Cross-check the list carefully before submitting your proposal on IFS

Assessment Criteria

Assessment of evidence & submissions at proposal & milestone delivery stages

1

Competition Alignment

How well the project delivery aligns with the aims of this competition and the quantum computing mission

2

Delivery Performance

Quality of contract delivery plan and organisation's capability to execute

3

Balanced Performance

Balance of scientific, technical, industrial and commercial performance at milestones

- Milestones must include tangible deliverables and reports — functional and technical designs, verification methods and test results with measurable targets.
- Digital/analogue/hybrid quantum computer configurations based on either a single or heterogenous combination of qubit modalities would be considered in scope.
- Submissions will help to inform the future public procurement of large-scale quantum computers beyond 2030

Portfolio Approach

- We reserve the right to take a **portfolio approach**, to achieve a balance across technologies, markets, and locations

Technology Diversity

High potential quantum computing technologies and architectures

Market Readiness

Strong-potential vs high-performance quantum computers

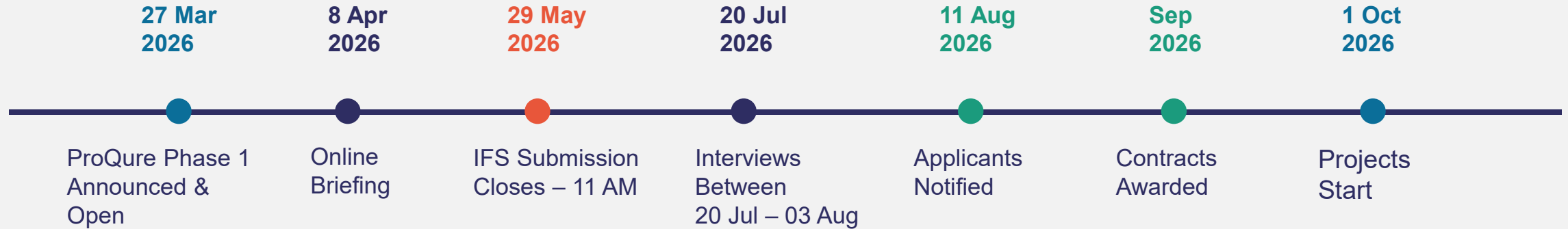
Locations

of development, build & deployment



Key Dates & Timeline

Pre-Award (Apr 2026 – Oct 2026)



Project Delivery Duration: 18–24 months (Oct 2026 – Sept 2028)

Operational Testbed Delivery

Operational testbed for independent verification 3 months before the final milestone date.

Phase 1 End

All milestone deliverables and submissions are signed off.

Phase 2 Invitation

Successful contractors invited to apply for up to £75M in Phase 2

Please refer to the brief on Innovation Funding Service (IFS) for up-to-date Information and guidance.

Networking for this Prog. — Two Dedicated Platforms

01



Join the [b2match](#) web portal

Sign up and create your profile to connect with a community of researchers, subcontractors, service providers and suppliers looking to participate in the quantum computing mission

Portal will remain available until Feb 2027 to network for ProQure Phase 1 & upcoming Quantum Computing CR&D calls

02



Attend the Live Event

An afternoon of in-person networking at a Central London venue, w/c 4th May 2026.

Registration details shall be shared over email & on the IFS page for this competition (under 'Dates' tab) next week.



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National Quantum
Computing Centre

Guidance on NQCC's Role



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The NQCC's objectives

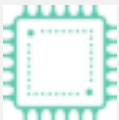
- **Solve key challenges by building and evaluating prototypes**, leading to the development of an intermediate-scale full-stack quantum computers that can demonstrate an 'advantage' for a range of tasks.
- **Build partnerships** and support the growth of the UK ecosystem by engaging the research community, industry, business, government and the public sector.
- **Deliver a long-term roadmap** for general-purpose quantum computing in the UK.



provide assurance



coordinate public-private partnerships



accelerate deployment



use case development focus



drive user adoption



support skills & training



Images: ©Hawkins\Brown

NQCC role in ProQure

- The NQCC will work with IUK as the lead coordinator for technical evaluation and validation. This will include:
 - technical input for the assessment of proposals
 - technical verification of contract milestone delivery, in support of the monitoring & evaluation process
 - performance evaluation of operational testbeds and equipment developed during the contracts
- The evaluation will be used to inform the evidence base and decision-making for future phases.
- It is not a mandatory requirement for the equipment to be hosted at the NQCC for the purposes of evaluation activities; however, where sufficiently justified - the NQCC may agree to host the operational testbed or equipment to facilitate technical evaluation, subject to availability and compliance with hosting requirements
- NQCC will involve trusted partners and experts in contributing towards the technical evaluation, and assurance where needed

Eligibility criteria



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Eligibility Criteria – Your Project



Your project must:

- start on **1 October 2026**
- end by **30 September 2028**
- last between **18** and **24** months
- have total costs of no more than **£14 million**, inclusive of VAT
- intend to exploit the capabilities and results from or in the UK

Projects must always start on the first of the month. You must not start your project until your Contract has been approved by Innovate UK.

Contracts for Innovation competitions are open to single applicants only.

Eligibility Criteria – Lead Organisation

Lead organisation:

To lead a project you can:

- be an organisation of any size, including those based in the EU, EEA or internationally
- work alone or with the subcontracted skills and expertise of others from business, research organisations, research and technology organisations, or the third sector (charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups)

The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the applicant and be carried out in the UK.

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

Eligibility Criteria – Subcontractors

Subcontractors

Subcontractors **are** allowed in this competition, but only for specialist skills.

You must clearly identify subcontractors in the proposal with their respective defined roles, deliverables and resource commitments.

Innovate UK may ask you to change your project plans or cost breakdown during due diligence and contract setup, before we award the contract.

Previously submitted applications

This competition **does not** 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

Q&A – Scope & Eligibility



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Innovation Funding Service (IFS)



About Contracts for Innovation



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Contracts for
Innovation

Innovate UK Contracts for Innovation

Helping government, helping businesses

Helping government:

Contracts for Innovation helps government organisations solve tough challenges by connecting them with innovative organisations.

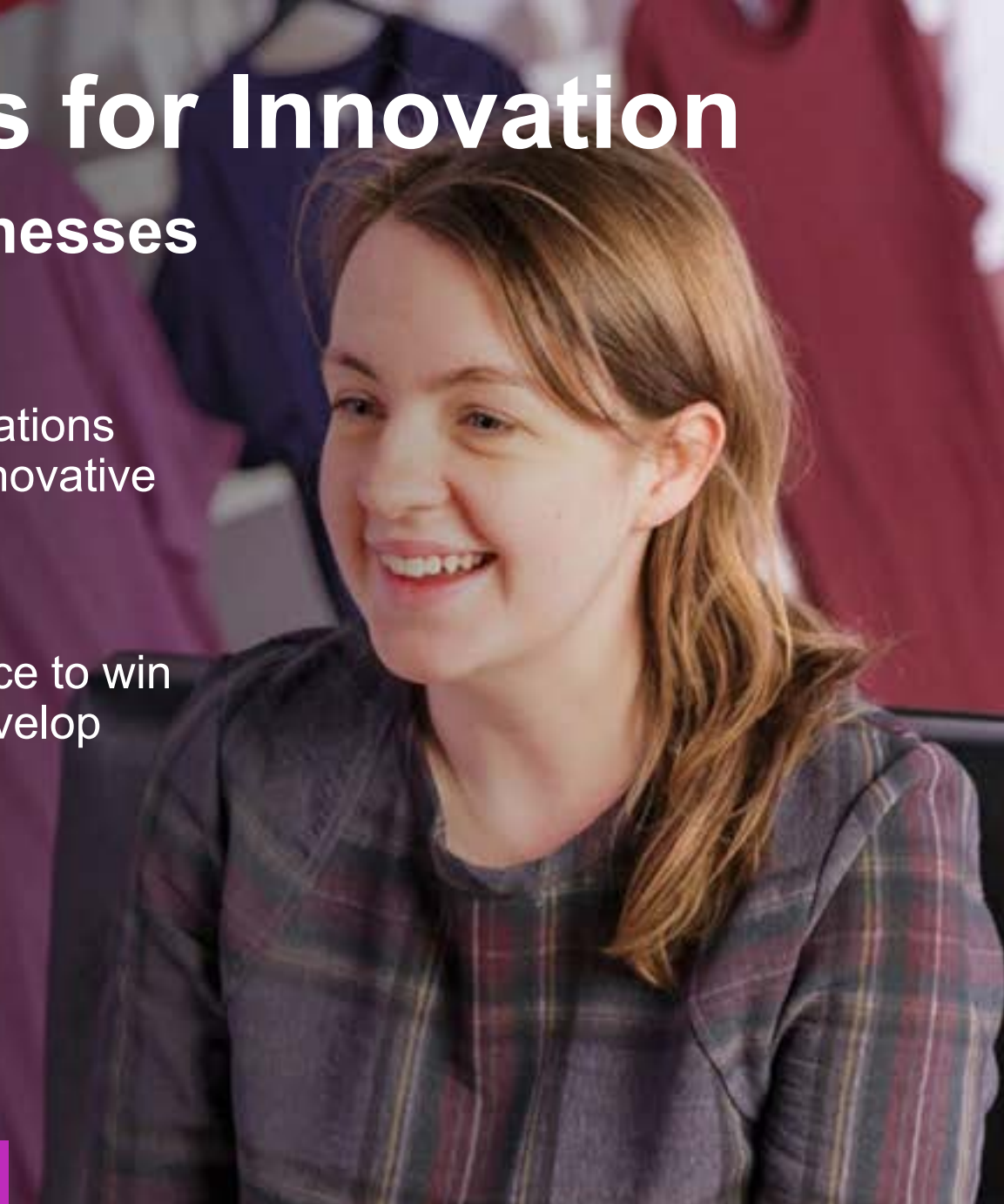
Helping businesses:

Contracts for Innovation offers innovators the chance to win a government contract to help demonstrate and develop their new technologies.

- over 100 public sector organisations participated
- average annual sales grow 30%



Jenny Griffiths, founder,
Snap Fashion



What are Contracts for Innovation?



Pre-commercial procurement

Outcome-driven solutions

Well-defined challenges

100% funded R&D services procurement contracts

Contracts for Innovation: Key Features

Development Contracts

- 100% funded R&D (procurement contract for R&D Services)
- Payment made on completion of milestones

Contract with Lead Applicant

- Any subcontractors remain accountable to the lead

IP rests with Supplier

- Certain usage rights for the Public Sector (licenses etc)
- Companies encouraged to exploit IP and will be assessed on this basis

Eligibility

- Open to all organisations. No limit on the size or type of company
- Open to companies not currently engaged in the sector
- Research organisations may also apply
- All organisations must demonstrate a route to market





Applying to a Contracts for Innovation competition

- In addition to the technical criteria, you will be assessed on your plans to commercialise your technology; value for money; potential benefits.
- This is a contract to deliver a specific outcome - be sure you can deliver what's in your application.
- You must include **VAT** (if registered), as this is a contract for R&D services and the award is classed as trading income.
- You **must not** include profit within your application.
- Explain the problem your project is looking to solve and who your target customers will be.
- We cannot increase your costs once you've been awarded a contract.
- Familiarise yourself with the contract - our terms and conditions are non-negotiable.

How to apply

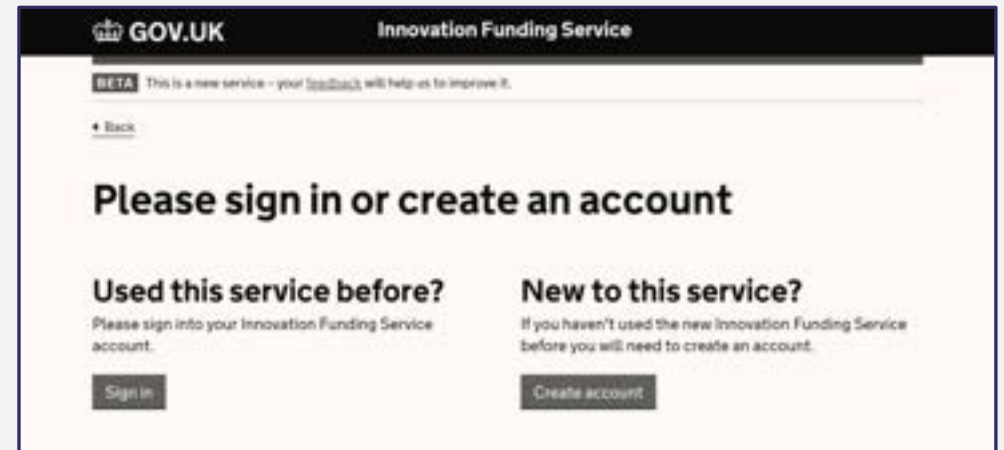
The lead applicant must create an account:

UK registered businesses

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

Research organisations, academics and universities

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.

[Back](#)

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.

[Sign in](#) [Create account](#)



Innovation Funding Service

Sign in

Need help?

Email address
Please enter your email address.

Password
Please enter your password.

 [Show](#)

[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?](#)



GOV.UK Innovation Funding Service

BETA This is a new service - your feedback will help us to improve it.

[Back](#)

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

 [Search](#)

Companies House search results
Select your organisation from the options below

1908595ALTD
04214477 - Incorporated on 10 May 2001
13 Queen Square, Bristol, BS1 4AT

Application Questions

Application Form		Word Count	Appendix
Question 1	Animal testing (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 2	Permits and licences (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 3	International Collaboration (not scored)	1000	No
Question 4	Export licence (not scored)	Multiple choice	No
Question 5	Trusted Research and Innovation (not scored)	400	No
Question 6	Proposed solution and works programme	800	Yes – optional, up to 10 pages
Question 7	Summary business case for tasks and deliverables	800	Yes – optional, up to 10 pages
Question 8	Current state of the art and intellectual property	400	Yes – optional, up to 4 pages
Question 9	Project plan and methodology	250	Yes – mandatory, up to 4 pages
Question 10	Technical team and expertise	250	Yes – optional, up to 2 pages
Question 11	Costs and value for money	250	Yes – optional, up to 4 pages
Question 12	Commercial opportunities and revenue forecast	800	No

Detailed question guidance is available on IFS

National Security and Investment Act - overview

Subject to certain criteria, UK applicants are legally required to tell the government about acquisitions of certain entities in 17 sensitive areas of the economy (called 'notifiable acquisitions').

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-security-and-investment-act-guidance-on-notifiable-acquisitions/national-security-and-investment-act-guidance-on-notifiable-acquisitions>

These 17 areas are:

- Advanced Materials
- Advanced Robotics
- Artificial Intelligence
- Civil Nuclear
- Communications
- Computing Hardware
- Critical Suppliers to Government
- Cryptographic Authentication
- Data Infrastructure
- Defence
- Energy
- Military and Dual-Use
- Quantum Technologies
- Satellite and Space Technologies
- Suppliers to the Emergency Services
- Synthetic Biology
- Transport

If there is significant uncertainty about whether an acquisition is notifiable, you may contact the government on **investment.screening@cabinetoffice.gov.uk** to seek a view or get legal advice from your own sources.

UK Strategic Export Controls - overview

[UK strategic export controls - GOV.UK](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).

Q3 International Collaboration (not scored)

Does your proposed work involve any international collaboration, engagement or supply chain partners?

You must provide details of the expected international collaboration, engagements and tier 1 and 2 supply chain subcontractors.

You must include a list of the names and the countries where international project team, partners, subcontractors, service providers, researchers, collaborators and tier 1 and 2 suppliers are based.

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

Q5 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

If your proposed work does not relate to UKRI's TR&I Principles, your answer must confirm this.

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

Project Impact questions

- Each organisation in your application will complete the Project Impact questions within the 'Supporting information' section
- The questions ask for data about the technical, industrial, social, economic and market impact of your project.
- 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:

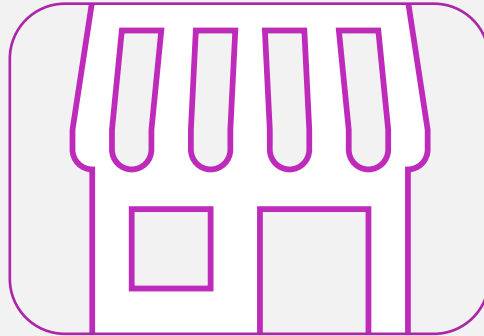
- [Watch Our Impact Management Framework video](#)
- [How is the Project Impact data collected? video](#)

Your Project Cost Categories

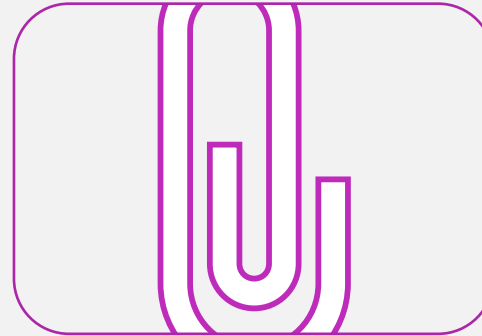
View our [Contracts for Innovation costs guidance](#)



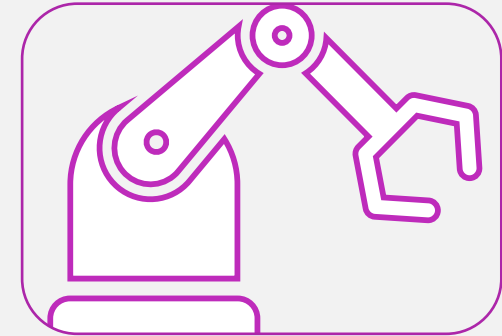
Labour



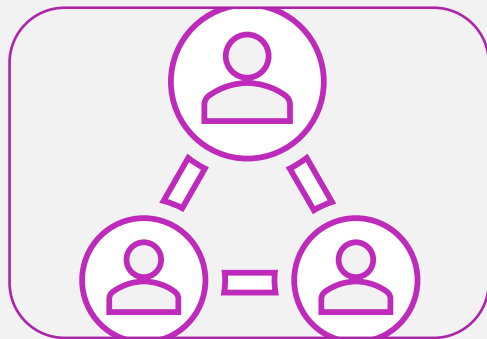
Overheads



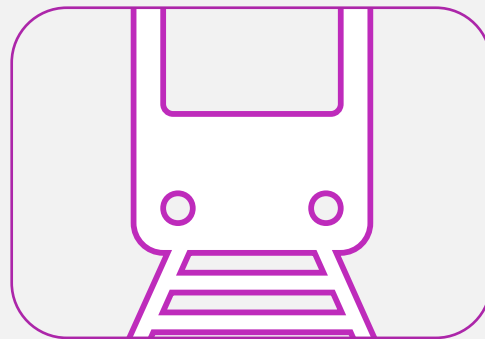
Materials



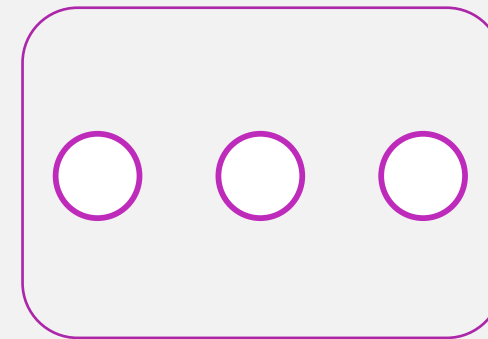
Capital Usage



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
Please complete your project finances.

Your project costs	Complete
Your project location	Complete
Your organisation	Complete
Your payment milestones	Complete

Your project costs

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

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 payment milestones

Enter each milestone and deliverable information. Where appropriate, link the milestone with a payment request.

VAT

Once you have completed your costs you will be asked to confirm if you're VAT registered. If you select 'yes', IFS will automatically add on VAT calculated at 20%.

If you are a VAT registered organisation you will **not** need to enter your project costs inclusive of VAT as the application form will calculate the VAT for you.

If you are not VAT registered then you can quote without VAT, but you will not be able to increase invoice values to cover VAT later on.

Make sure not to double count your VAT as it may increase your project costs and make you ineligible.

'Thomas Ltd. ' Total project costs

£113,799

Are you VAT registered?

If you are VAT registered, VAT will be calculated at 20%

Yes

No

By ticking this box you are accepting that the project costs for your organisation are eligible as defined in the [project costs guidance \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Project cost summary

Finances Close all

Funding breakdown ✓ Complete —

[Return to your project finances](#) to complete or make changes to your organisation's financial information.

	Total	Labour (£)	Overheads (£)	Materials (£)	Capital usage (£)	Subcontracting (£)	Travel and subsistence (£)	Other costs (£)	Total VAT (£)
Thomas Ltd. <small>Organisation</small> View finances	£136,559	24,784	15	25,000	4,000	50,000	0	10,000	22,760

Ensure the highlighted costs fit the criteria for this competition.

The maximum project costs for this competition are **£14 million, inclusive of VAT**

The lead organisation can see a summary of project costs calculated inclusive of VAT (if VAT registered)

Ensure the total costs of your milestones match these total project costs

Subcontractors

Eligible:

Subcontracting outside of the UK is permitted.

You should fully explain the specific skills the subcontractor brings to the project.

If you're subcontracting to a parent or sister company, please ensure you list at cost and do not include profit.

All costs must be justified and quantified.

You can subcontract work if you don't have the expertise in your project team. You can also subcontract if it is cheaper than developing your skills in-house.

▶ [Subcontracting costs guidance](#)

Please provide details of any work that you expect to subcontract for your project.

Subcontractor name

Robotics experts ltd

Country where the subcontractor will work

UK

Role of the subcontractor in the project and description of the work they'll do

facilitation and availability of robotics labs

Cost

36795

Other costs

Costs that could not be added under previous headings.

Do not double count.

All costs will be reviewed by the finance team during contract award

Other costs	£0 ▲
Please provide details of any project costs which cannot be covered by the other cost categories.	
▶ Other costs guidance	
Please note that legal or project audit and accountancy fees are not eligible and should not be included as an 'other cost'. Patent filing costs of new IP relating to the project are limited to £7,500 for SME applicants only. Please provide estimates of other costs that do not fit within any other cost headings.	
Description and justification of the cost	Estimated cost (£)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Add another cost	

Payment milestones

Month completed	Milestone	% of project costs	Payment request	
1	Milestone 1	0%	£0	-

Month completed	Milestone	Payment requested (£)
1	Milestone 1	0

Task or activity

Words remaining: 200

Deliverable

Words remaining: 200

Success criteria

Enter each milestone and any associated payments

Month completed	Milestone	% of project costs	Payment request	Open all
1	Milestone 1	33.33%	£50,000	+
2	Milestone 2	33.33%	£50,000	+
3	Milestone 3	33.33%	£50,000	+

[Add another project milestone](#)

Total payment requested	100%	£150,000
--------------------------------	-------------	-----------------

[Mark as complete](#)

[Save and return to project finances](#)

Once all milestones have been entered, mark the section as complete



Information to include in your milestone template

- Details of work packages with clear description of the activities taking place in each milestone.
- The month the milestone will be completed, which will help form your **quarterly** payment schedule.
- Clear and distinct deliverable(s) from each milestone that you'll be able to evidence to confirm you've completed the milestone in full.
- Success criteria for each milestone, noting that it must be clearly relatable to the work packages, deliverable(s) and must be measurable within reason.
- Costs for each milestone – check that the total costs on the milestones match the total project costs page within the finance section.
- Do not cluster your milestones together, even if they occur in the same period. We need separate deliverables and costs for each milestone.

Milestone example

Milestone

Build test environment for prototype

Task or activity

Complete physical hardware build
Software integration finalised

Deliverable

Prototype test environment built in accordance with associated designs
Operating instruction manual completed

Success Criteria

Fully operational test environment.
Successful integration of prototype and test environment software.
0.5% error rate

Month completed	Milestone	% of project costs	Payment request	Close all
1	Milestone 1	0%	£0	-

Month completed	Milestone	Payment requested (£)
1	Milestone 1	0

Task or activity

Words remaining: 200

Deliverable

Words remaining: 200

Success criteria

Checking your finances are complete

Finances [Close all](#)

Funding breakdown -

Project cost breakdown

	Total	Labour (£)	Overheads (£)	Materials (£)	Capital usage (£)	Subcontracting (£)	Travel and subsistence (£)	Other cost: (£)
Ellie Foden	£2,900,689	17,241	500,000	1,900,000	0	0	0	(

Organisation
[View finances](#)

Check your finances have been correctly entered, with the correct costs as per the eligibility criteria of the competition and the correct VAT status.

IFS DOES NOT VALIDATE TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Terms and Conditions

Before you can submit your application, you 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.

Note that for procurement, they may differ from any you have agreed to before. These terms are set and are non-negotiable.

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

[Award terms and conditions](#) ✎ Incomplete

[Review and submit](#) [Print your application](#)

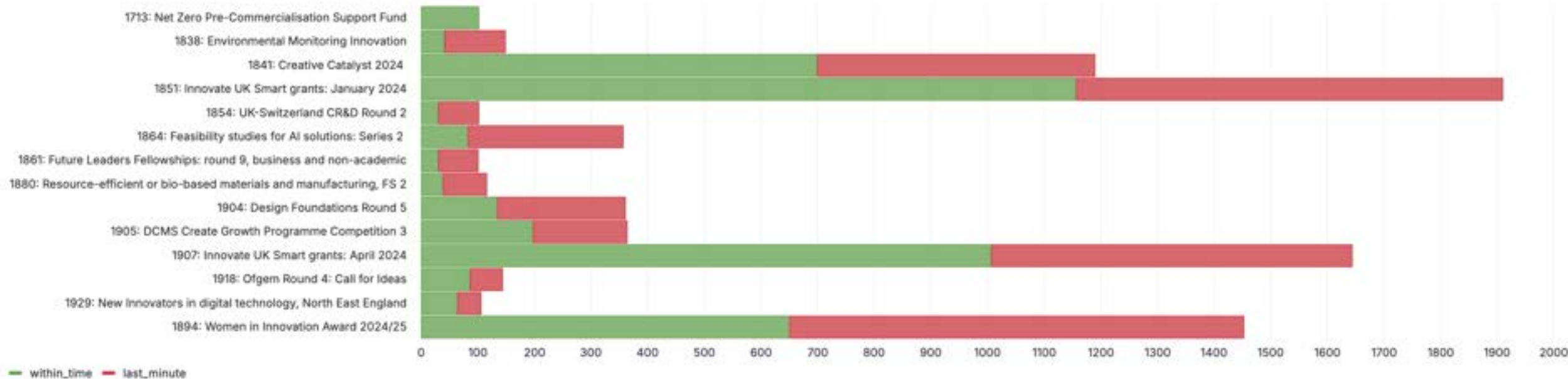
I agree to the [full terms and conditions](#) set out by the funding authority. I understand I need to agree to the final contract if my application is successful.

[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

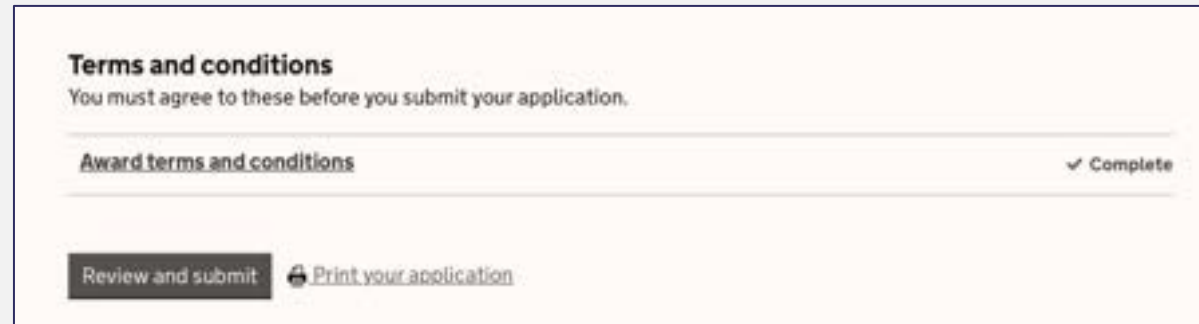
Awaiting assessment

Application submitted

[Reopen](#)

This screenshot shows the application status page. The application is in the 'Application submitted' stage. A 'Reopen' link is visible at the bottom right of the application details box.

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](#)

This screenshot shows the 'Terms and conditions' page. The 'Award terms and conditions' step is marked as 'Complete'. There are two buttons at the bottom: 'Review and submit' and '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](#)

This screenshot shows the 'Terms and conditions' page with the 'Submit application' button highlighted. The 'Award terms and conditions' step is marked as 'Complete'. There is a 'Contact us' link at the bottom.

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.

Assessment



Assessment

[YouTube Playlist](#)

-  **How do our assessors assess?**
Innovate UK • 8.1K views • 2 years ago
-  **How are successful applications selected for funding?**
Innovate UK • 17K views • 2 years ago
-  **What steps are there before a project starts?**
Innovate UK • 7.7K views • 2 years ago
-  **How are successful projects monitored?**
Innovate UK • 4.1K views • 2 years ago
-  **How successful applicants receive their funding.**
Innovate UK • 4.6K views • 2 years ago



Interviews



If your application passes the first stage of assessment, you may be invited to attend an interview, where you must give a presentation. Your interview will take place either online or at a designated location.

DATES: between 20 July and 3 August 2026

Up to **six** people from your organisation, including subcontractors if appropriate, can attend. They must all be available on all published interview dates. We are unable to reschedule slots once allocated.

Your interview presentation must:

- use Microsoft PowerPoint
- be no longer than **40** minutes
- have no more than **20** slides
- not include any video or embedded web links (technical model animations can be included)

After your presentation the panel will spend up to **70** minutes asking questions. You will be expected to answer based on the information you provided in your application form, presentation and the response to feedback.

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
- Contract

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 30 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



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

Q&A



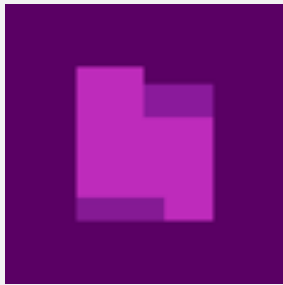
Innovate
UK

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**

iuk-business-connect.org.uk



**Innovate UK Business
Growth**

www.iukbg.ukri.org

Thank You

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