**Edition: September 2016**

Innovate UK focuses on thematic areas that are most likely to generate UK economic growth and which address global challenges and opportunities – and on competencies and technologies which enable innovation in these areas.

In making investments they apply four key criteria:

* Is there a large (global) market opportunity?
* Does the UK have the capability to develop and exploit the technology?
* Is the idea ‘ready' – is the timing right?
* Can Innovate UK make a difference?

Most of these calls are costed on a total project basis, with the funder then meeting a percentage of that cost. The percentage will depend on a number of factors including the length of the project, the total project cost and the size of the company.

Calls are announced on a regular basis and this document is updated monthly. If you have an idea or a challenge that meets the criteria for funding and where you think the University can help, come and talk to us. You can contact the Business Team at: [businessteam@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:businessteam@contacts.bham.ac.uk)

Further detail for all of the following calls can be found at <https://interact.innovateuk.org/>

**NB:** Innovate UK has recently published its delivery plan for 2016 to 2017. The plan highlights 5 programmes that it will support over the coming year, which a number of calls released under each programme. Estimates for when these calls will open are provided below, and information will continue to be updated throughout the year.

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|  | | **Emerging and Enabling Technologies**  *Emerging Technologies finds and proves early stage technologies, often from the research base; Enabling Technologies supports underpinning technologies that have the potential to disrupt a broad swathe of products and services across many sectors* |
| [Commercialisation of quantum technologies](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-commercialisation-of-quantum-technologies)  £19.5m available | **Scope**   * Funding for collaborative R&D and feasibility studies that will:   + Develop prototype devices and demonstrators of quantum technologies or their component technologies   + Improve the understanding of the technical, business or market challenges of taking a new device or service to market * Projects must be collaborative, with a business leading the project   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs expected between £500k and £2m (collaborative R&D) or between £50k and £400k (feasibility studies) * A webinar and briefing event in Birmingham will be held on 6th September; see website for details * Registration deadline: 28th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 5th October 2016 | |
| \*NEW\* [Robotics and autonomous systems applications](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-robotics-and-autonomous-systems-applications/competition-brief-robotics-and-autonomous-systems-applications)  £5m available | **Scope**   * Aim is to develop successful RAS products, services or processes * Systems may be physical or digital, combining many complementary disciplines * Projects must be led by a UK-based business of any size, working alone or in collaboration with business, research bases or the third sector   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs between £50k and £500k * Projects should last between 6 and 15 months * All projects must have concluded by March 2018 * Registration deadline is 19th October 2016 * Competition deadline is 26th October 2016 | |
| \*NEW\* [Compound semiconductor applications](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-compound-semiconductor-applications)  £4m available | **Scope**   * Innovation sought for projects that will speed up the use of compound semiconductors. Areas covered include power electronics, RF/microwave, photonics and sensors * Projects should have large and scalable commercial potential * Projects may lead to future collaborations with the new Compound Semiconductor Applications Catapult * Projects must be led by a UK-based business of any size   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs expected between £50k and £500k * Projects should last between 6 and 15 months * Projects must have concluded by March 2018 * Registration deadline is 19th October 2016 * Competition deadline is 26th October 2016 | |
| Emerging and Enabling Technologies competition 1  Award up to £15m | Expected October 2016 | |
| Space Entrepreneurs Mission  Award TBC | Expected October 2016 | |
| Emerging and Enabling Technologies competition 2  Award up to £15m | Expected March 2017 | |

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|  | **Health and Life Sciences**  *Innovate UK’s Health and Life Sciences sector group has a focus on agriculture and food and healthcare, underpinned by technologies developed in bioscience and medical research and enabled by expertise in engineering and physical sciences* |
| [Biomedical catalyst 2016](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-biomedical-catalyst-2016)  £10m available | **Scope**   * Early-stage and feasibility study funding to develop innovative healthcare technologies in the following areas:   + Disease prevention and proactive management of health and chronic conditions   + Earlier and better detection and diagnosis of disease leading to better patient outcomes   + Tailored treatments that either change the underlying disease or offer potential cures * An SME must lead the project. Universities can work as partners on these projects   **Funding and deadlines**   * Early-stage awards will fund projects with total costs of between £200k and £1.5m. Projects should last up to 2 years, starting by 1st January 2017 and ending by 1st January 2019 * Feasibility studies will fund projects with total costs of up to £200k. Projects should last between 3 months and 1 year. Projects must start by 1st January 2017 and end by 1st January 2018 * Registration deadline: 7th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 14th September 2016 |
| [Agri-food innovation in Turkey](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-agri-food-innovation-in-turkey)  Award up to £1.5m (UK activities) | **Scope**   * Funding for collaborative solutions that address one or more of the following challenges:   + Using waste by-products and residues from the Turkish agri-food industry to reduce their negative environmental impact and add value   + Improving agricultural productivity of small and medium sized farmers through upgrading agricultural technology   + Improving animal and plant breeding within Turkey   **Funding and deadlines**   * Innovate UK expects to fund 5-7 projects, with a total pot for UK activities of £1.5m * Registration deadline: 14th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 22nd September 2016 |
| [Agri-Tech Catalyst](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agri-tech-catalyst-innovation-funding-in-developing-countries)  £4m available | **Scope**   * Funding to increase the pace and scale of uptake of agricultural innovation by farmers in developing countries * Priority areas have been identified as:   + Integrating smallholders into supply change   + Meeting quality standards and improving productivity   + Creating new supply chains   + Increasing the value of production to smallholders   + Improving access to appropriate innovation in developing countries   + Innovation that increases rural income through improved processing / storage   + Control of crop pests, weeds and diseases * Projects funded at early stage, industrial research or late-stage experimental development * Projects must be led by a UK-based business. Universities can work as partners on projects   **Funding and deadlines**   * Between 25% and 70% of total costs will be funded depending on size of lead company, with projects lasting between 18 months and 3 years * Total project costs of up to £1.5m will be considered (with differing limits depending on stream applied for) * Competition deadlines are:   + 2nd November 2016 – EoI stage for Industrial research only   + 1st February 2017 – Full stage for all award categories |
| Health and Life Sciences competition 1  Award up to £15m | Expected September 2016 |
| Aligned competitions with Cell Therapy Manufacturing  Award up to £15m | Expected September 2016 |
| Health and Life Sciences competition 2  Award up to £15m | Expected February 2017 |

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|  | **Infrastructure Systems**  *The Infrastructure Systems sector group covers the major global market opportunities in optimising transport and energy systems and integrating these with other systems such as health and digital in an urban context* |
| [First of a kind deployment of innovation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-first-of-a-kind-deployment-of-innovation)  £19m available | **Scope**   * Aim is to support innovative projects that test new infrastructure technologies for the first time in user-facing applications * Projects will run in 2 phases:   + Funded study   + Testing the innovation in a commercial environment * Projects must be led by a business, and must involve at least one SME. At least one end customer must also be involved. Universities can work as partners on this project.   **Funding and deadlines**   * Competition opens 18th July 2016 * Phase 1 will fund total costs up to £50k over 3 months. Phase 2 will fund projects with total costs between £250k and £5m for up to 1 year * Registration deadline: 24th August 2016 * Competition deadline: 31st August 2016 |
| [Energy catalyst round 4: early-stage technical feasibility awards](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-energy-catalyst-round-4)  Award up to £9m | **Scope**   * Aims to encourage the following global energy challenges:   + Low carbon   + Security of supply   + Affordability * Proposals are encouraged that bring innovative new solutions into the energy sector and its supply chain * Cross-cutting and enabling technologies are encouraged * Applications can be led by either an SME or a research organisation collaborating with a business   **Funding and deadlines**   * Project duration: up to 1 year * Total project costs: up to £200k * Registration deadline: 7th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 14th September 2016 |
| [Innovation in infrastructure systems](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-innovation-in-infrastructure-systems)  £15m available | **Scope**   * Projects will be supported for business-led solutions to the following:   + Affordable, sustainable and secure energy   + Connected transport   + Urban living   + Integrated infrastructure and resilience of infrastructure to environmental and social pressures * Projects must be led by a business and include at least one SME. Universities can work as partners on these projects   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs expected between £25k and £5m * Projects should last between 3 months and 3 years * Registration deadline: 14th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 21st September 2016 |
| \*NEW\* [EDF energy inspection innovation challenge](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-edf-energy-inspection-innovation-challenge) | **Scope**   * Aim is to identify new and innovative ways to inspect and monitor EDF Energy’s power generation assets * Call has two themes:   + Nuclear   + Offshore wind farms * Competition open to businesses of any size, and academic partners may be named   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs between £5k and £10k for each project * Competition deadline is 28th September 2016 |
| [Low emission freight and logistics trial](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-low-emission-freight-and-logistics-trial)  £24m available | **Scope**   * Two streams of funding available:   1. Industry-led trials of innovative vehicles or on-vehicle technologies   2. To develop innovative and disruptive on-vehicle technology, off-vehicle systems or new business models. These must reduce emissions * Projects must be led by a UK-based business. Universities are able to work as partners   **Funding and deadlines**   * For stream 1, total project costs are expected of between £500k and £5m. Projects should last between 18 months and 2 years * For stream 2, total project costs are expected of between £250k and £5m. Projects should last no more than 1 year * Registration deadline: 12th October 2016 * Competition deadline: 19th October 2016 |
| [Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) Strategic Research and Technology Projects](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-aerospace-technology-institute-rt-programme)  Award TBC | **Scope**   * Innovate UK acts as the deliver partner for ATI R&D programmes * Innovate UK and ATI are looking for ideas about the broader opportunities that might be offered by the programme, as well as to support long-term planning   **Funding and deadlines**   * The programme is open to suggestions through to 31st March 2020 |
| BIM Level 3 digital challenges for energy utilities and transport infrastructure contractors  Award up to £10k | Expected soon |
| ERA-Net competitions, including sustainable urbanisation and solar systems  Award up to £1m | Expected October 2016 |
| Future Cities mission  Award up to £60k | Expected October 2016 |
| Infrastructure Systems competition 2  Award up to £15m | Expected January 2017 |

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|  | **Manufacturing and Materials**  *Focuses on the development, validation and application of cross-cutting manufacturing and materials technologies and processes to drive productivity and growth* |
| [APC6 – accelerating the drive to low carbon propulsion](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-apc6-innovation-in-low-carbon-propulsion)  £25m available | **Scope**   * Collaborative R&D funding for innovative on-vehicle technologies. Vehicles can be either on-road or off-road * Proposals should be in one of the following technology areas:   + Internal combustion engines   + Lightweight vehicle and powertrain structures   + Electric machines and power electronics   + Energy storage and energy management   + Alternative propulsion systems * All projects must be business-led, collaborative, include at least one vehicle manufacturer and/or a tier 1 supplier, and include at least one SME. Universities can work as partners on these projects   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs expected in the range of £5m and £40m * Projects should last between 18 months and 42 months * Registration deadline: 14th September 2016 * Competition deadline: 21st September 2016 |
| Manufacturing Readiness competition  Award up to £2m | Expected soon |
| Connected and Autonomous Vehicles competition  Award TBC | Expected soon |
| OLEV Integrated Delivery Programme 13  Award TBC | Expected October 2016 |
| Manufacturing and Materials competition 2  Award up to £15m | Expected November 2016 |

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|  | | **Open programme**  *Accessible to all businesses and academics undertaking innovation, irrespective of the technology or sector in which they are working* |
| [Mobuoy Road waste remediation](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sbri-funding-competition-mobuoy-road-waste-remediation)  £350k available | **Scope**   * Funding to stimulate innovative remediation treatments for illegal waste sites. Projects may also find ways of reducing the negative impact of these sites on the environment * Solutions should be relevant to the Mobuoy Road illegal waste site in Northern Ireland, but can be applicable to other regions aswell   **Funding and deadlines**   * Funding will be issued in 2 phases. Up to 6 projects, totalling £350k, will be funded in phase 1. Development contracts will last for up to 6 months * Successful projects will be invited to apply for phase 2 * Registration deadline: 17th August 2016 * Competition deadline: 24th August 2016 | |
| [Seeing through the clouds](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cde-themed-competition-seeing-through-the-clouds/competition-summary-seeing-through-the-clouds)  £1.5m available | **Scope**   * Funding for innovation in active and passive optical imaging through clouds * Sample technologies cited are Laser Detection and Ranging (Ladar) and Light detection and ranging (Lidar)   **Funding and deadlines**   * Total project costs between £50k and £100k * Project duration up to 6 months * Competition deadline: 1st September 2016 | |
| [Open competition 1](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/innovate-uk-open-funding-competition)  Award up to £14m | **Scope**   * Funding available for the best business-led idea or concepts from any technology, engineering or industrial area * Proposals should demonstrate innovation leading to new products, processes or services * Projects should articulate their anticipated growth impact, resulting in significant return on investment * Priority given to projects that will lead to sustainable gains in productivity and / or access to new overseas markets through export-led business growth   **Funding and deadlines**   * Projects should last between 6 and 36 months, with total project costs of between £25k and £1m * Registration deadline: 31st August 2016 * Application deadline: 7th September 2016 | |
| [Automatic threat detection of firearms](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/funding-competition-automatic-threat-detection-of-firearms)  £2m available | **Scope**   * Proposals should demonstrate how they will enhance existing x-ray screening techniques through the development of automatic threat detection algorithms * All firearms are within scope, and the algorithm may be extended to detect other forms of contraband * Competition open to any organisation, but all applicants will need to demonstrate that their product has a credible route to market   **Funding and deadlines**   * Funding is allocated in 2 phases. Phase 1 will support development contracts for up to 4 months, up to £50k in value * Promising projects will move to phase 2, with £200k available for each project * Registration deadline: 24th August 2016 * Competition deadline: 31st August 2016 | |
| [Women in innovation 2016](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/infocus-funding-award-women-in-innovation)  Award up to £200k | **Scope**   * Awards of £50k will be made to 4 women, 1 for each of the following areas:   + Emerging and enabling technologies   + Health and life sciences   + Infrastructure systems   + Manufacturing and materials * 12 women, including the 4 above, will receive a tailor-made package of support from Innovate UK * Applicants must self-identify as a woman and work for a registered UK business, either as company owner, an employee or a sole trader / entrepreneur   **Funding and deadlines**   * Projects may last up to 12 months * Registration deadline: 24th August 2016 * Competition deadline: 31st August 2016 | |
| \*NEW\* [CRACK IT 2016](https://www.crackit.org.uk/crack-it-challenges) | **Scope**   * Challenge-led competition that funds collaborations between industry, academics and SMEs to solve business and scientific challenges * This year’s challenges are:   + 22: Osteo-chip, an in vitro model to recapitulate the human osteoarthritic joint   + 23: Retinal 3D, a physiologically competent human retinal 3D model   + 24: EASE, eliminating surgical embryo transfer in mice   + 25: Maximise, maximising confidence while minimising data generation for acute hazard classification of mixtures   **Funding and deadlines**   * Competition launches in London on 8th September; see website for details * Up to £100k available for each call. Challenges 22 and 23 carry a second phase of funding that will increase to £1m * Projects under 24 and 25 can last up to 1 year; challenges under 22 and 23 may last up to 6 months for phase 1, and a further 3 years for phase 2 * Competition deadline for 22 and 23 is 9th November 2016; for 24 and 25 this is 16th November 2016 | |
| [Knowledge Transfer Partnerships](https://interact.innovateuk.org/competition-display-page/-/asset_publisher/RqEt2AKmEBhi/content/knowledge-transfer-partnershi-1)  Funding available throughout the year | **Scope**   * KTPs offer businesses the opportunity to work in partnership with a University to obtain knowledge and expertise. Projects are designed to meet business challenges and embed sustainable innovation * The knowledge sought is embedded into the company through a project undertaken by a recently qualified gradate (known as the KTP associate) recruited specifically to work on that project * ***NB: Innovate UK is particular interested in applications related to cyber security***   **Funding and deadlines**   * Innovate UK part-funds the KTP. SMEs contribute 33% of the project costs, and larger companies contribute 50% * Deadlines run every two months. The next two are:   + 7th September 2016   + 2nd November 2016 * Be sure to follow @UniBham\_KTP on Twitter for regular updates on UoB KTPs | |
| Growth and scale competition  Award up to £2m | Expected October 2016 | |
| Open competition 2  Award up to £14m | Expected December 2016 | |