

Terms and Conditions - Transport Pathfinder Innovation Programme

January 2023

This funding opportunity is being made available from the Royal College of Art by Innovate UK, the UK's national innovation agency. It drives productivity and economic growth by supporting businesses to develop and realise the potential of new ideas, including those from the UK's world class research base.

Innovate UK connects businesses to the partners, customers and investors that can help them turn ideas into commercially successful products and services, and aid business growth.

Application

1. The information provided in your application will be used to decide if your product or service is considered for shortlisting to receive seed-funding and design management support. You will find out within 6 weeks if your application has been successful and informed of next steps if you are invited to interview.
2. Our funding from Innovate UK stipulates that it is spent in the UK and activity must be completed by the end of January 2024.
3. If you have previously received seed funding from Design Age Institute's Pathfinder Programme, you are not eligible to reapply for the same project.
4. We do however encourage applications from public sector organisations including charities and Higher Education Institutions, even if your institution has received funding from us in the past - note we will not fund the same projects.
5. If you are awarded funding following interview, you will be issued a contract with the RCA stating agreed activities and a payment schedule if applicable. You will be required to provide evidence of completions of milestones in order to receive payment instalments. Expectations for monitoring and evaluation processes will also be included to satisfy the needs of our funding from Innovate UK.
6. All project funding will need to be spent by the end of January 2024. By submitting an application you agree that if you are successful your project will be included in any exhibition, marketing or communications material produced by Design Age Institute under the terms for dissemination by the RCA and Innovate UK. This will be discussed with you prior to any material being produced.
7. We may review your financial stability prior to approving you for support of design management or funding. Submitting an application is confirmation that you are willing to provide your most recent financial information, including latest audited annual accounts, if requested. You are expected to be financially solvent and not rely solely on the seed funding you are applying for. The RCA is

- not responsible for an individual organisation's cash flow.
8. If your application is unsuccessful, you will receive email feedback and signposting to opportunities to receive correspondence regarding Design Age Institute that might be of interest.
 9. Design Age Institute has received funding from Innovate UK which is administered by the Royal College of Art. Funding is only permitted to organisations based within the UK under the terms and conditions of the funding body.
 10. Upon mutual consultation and agreement, Design Age Institute may leverage a reasonable and fair royalty or equity for the support given to the successful development of your product or service. This will be discussed on a case by case basis where appropriate.

State Aid/Subsidy

11. The State Aid Rules (see Annex 5 of the [Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland](#)) will apply to the seed funding where the seed funding will affect trade between Northern Ireland and the EU as envisaged by Article 10 of the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland in the EU Withdrawal Agreement. In such cases, the provisions in Annex A in these terms and conditions will apply to the funding.
 - a. You will be required to complete necessary paperwork if successful for funding to ensure compliance with MFA rules and regulations. In line with the UK's Subsidy Control Framework, awards of up to £315,000 can be made to a single enterprise over a rolling 3-year financial period;
 - b. In all other circumstances, you must always ensure that the seed funding awarded to you is compliant with any legislation applicable in the United Kingdom on or after 1 January 2021 that regulates the granting by a public sector body of any advantage which threatens to, or actually distorts competition in the United Kingdom or any other country or countries (UK Subsidy Control Framework).
 - c. We are able to accept applications from organisations in Northern Ireland, but please note there are different subsidy terms you will need to comply with. Further information about the UK Subsidy Control Framework can be found in Innovate - UK's [website](#).
 - d. RCA will immediately stop grant payments to you in any and all projects and may require you to repay grant funding if you are found to have received a subsidy that is deemed to be in breach of the UK Subsidy Control Framework.
 - e. No subcontract or other agreement with a third party can be made which would constitute a breach of the UK Subsidy Control Framework.
 - f. Your product or service must not distort or threaten to distort competition between the UK and/or EU member states; and
 - g. Your product or service is to be available for purchase within the UK or overseas.

Design Age Institute is committed to best practice in equality, diversity and safeguarding and to compliance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation.

For further information on the terms and conditions, or working with Design Age Institute, please contact: Victoria Patrick, Impact Manager at Design Age Institute: victoria.patrick@rca.ac.uk.