

Industry Sector Ambassadors

Innovate UK

Application Pack



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1. UK Research and Innovation

UK Research and Innovation works in partnership with universities, research organisations, businesses, charities, and government to create the best possible environment for research and innovation to flourish. We aim to maximise the contribution of each of our component parts, working individually and collectively. We work with our many partners to benefit everyone through knowledge, talent and ideas. Operating across the whole of the UK with a combined budget of more than £7 billion, UK Research and Innovation brings together the seven research councils, Innovate UK and Research England.

The research councils are:

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)

AHRC funds world class, independent researchers in a wide range of subjects. Their research provides social and cultural benefits and contributes to the economic success of the UK but also to the culture and welfare of societies around the globe.

Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)

BBSRC invests in world-class bioscience research and training. Their research is helping society to meet major challenges, including food security, green energy and healthier, longer lives and underpinning important UK economic sectors such as farming, food, industrial biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)

ESRC is the UK's largest funder of research on the social and economic questions facing us today. Their research shapes public policy and contributes to making the economy more competitive, as well as giving people a better understanding of 21st century society.

Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council

EPSRC invests in world-leading research and post-graduate training across the engineering and physical sciences. Their research builds the knowledge and skills base needed to address scientific and technological challenges and provides a platform for future UK prosperity by contributing to a healthy, connected, resilient, productive nation.

Innovate UK

Innovate UK works with people, companies and partner organisations to find and drive the science and technology innovations that will grow the UK economy. They drive growth by working with companies to de-risk, enable and support innovation.

Medical Research Council

MRC is at the forefront of scientific discovery to improve human health. Their scientists tackle some of the greatest health problems facing humanity in the 21st century, from the rising tide of chronic diseases associated with ageing to the threats posed by rapidly mutating micro-organisms.

National Environment Research Council

NERC is the driving force of investment in environmental science. Their leading research, skills and infrastructure help solve major issues and bring benefits to the UK, such as affordable clean energy, air pollution and resilience of our infrastructure.

Research England

Research England is a new council within UK Research and Innovation. Taking forward the England-only responsibilities of HEFCE in relation to research and knowledge exchange, Research England will create and sustain the conditions for a healthy and dynamic research and knowledge exchange system in English Universities.

Science and Technology Facilities Council

STFC is a world-leading multi-disciplinary science organisation. Their research seeks to understand the universe from the largest astronomical scales to the tiniest constituents of matter, yet creates impact on a very tangible, human scale.

Governance and Structure

UKRI governance arrangements enable clear accountability and efficient decision-making. Our governance arrangements will:

- Support development and delivery of the overall strategy for the organisation;
- Enable the CEO to perform his role as accountable officer;
- Empower each of the Councils and Executive Chairs to take a leading role in their area, consistent with the commitment to subsidiarity in the [Higher Education and Research Act 2017](#).

Our main governance bodies are the [UK Research and Innovation Board](#) and the [Executive Committee](#) which provides strategy advice to the Board and is the day-to-day coordinating body for UKRI executive activity.

Each of the nine Councils have [Council members](#) who play a critical role in our strategy development and governance. Council members will work with their Executive Chair to deliver their council's aims and objectives and to support UKRI's overall mission.

The UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) [framework document \(PDF, 751KB\)](#) sets out the governance arrangements between UKRI and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

UKRI has its own internal governance framework, which will work with, and be informed by, this framework document, the HER Act and other relevant policies and guidance.

Non-Executive Chair

- [Sir John Kingman](#)

Senior leadership team

An initial leadership team has been appointed to provide the leadership and focus to ensure the effective set-up of UK Research and Innovation as an organisation.

- [Chief Executive – Sir Mark Walport](#)
- [Chief Finance Officer - Mike Blackburn](#)
- [Director of Strategy – Emma Lindsell and Isobel Stephen](#)
- [Programme Director – Anne Dixon](#)

2. About Innovate UK

Innovate UK is part of UK Research and Innovation, a non-departmental public body funded by a grant-in-aid from the UK government. We drive 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.

We're an organisation of almost 500 staff, drawn mainly from business. We work across the UK, with a head office in Swindon. With a strong business focus, we drive growth by working with companies to de-risk, enable and support innovation. We connect businesses to the partners, customers and investors that can help them turn ideas into commercially successful products and services and business growth.

We fund business and research collaborations to accelerate innovation and drive business investment into research and development. Our support is available to businesses across all economic sectors, value chains and UK regions.

Since 2007, we have invested around £2.5 billion to help businesses across the country to innovate, with match funding from industry taking the total value of projects above £4.3 billion.

We have helped 8,500 organisations create around 70,000 jobs and added an estimated £18 billion of value to the UK economy.

In April 2018, Innovate UK became part of UK Research and Innovation. [Our Annual Report and Accounts for 2018-19 is now part of the overall UKRI Annual Reports and Accounts.](#)

Our delivery plan sets out what we will do each year to support businesses to develop ideas and commercialise new technologies. In the [2019 Delivery Plan](#) we explain how we will help fund and connect businesses to develop the new products, processes and services that will meet or define the markets of the future.

3 Programmes

The Catapult Programme

The Catapult centres are a network of world-leading centres designed to transform the UK's capability for innovation in specific areas and help drive future economic growth. There are nine Catapult Centres in specific key areas:

- Energy Systems
- High Value Manufacturing
- Cell and Gene Therapy
- Offshore Renewable Energy
- Satellite Applications
- Digital
- Connected Places
- Medicines Discovery
- Compound Semiconductor Applications

Centres for Agricultural Innovation

The Agri-Tech Centres are a unique collaboration between Government, academia and industry to drive greater efficiency, resilience and wealth across the agrifood sector. A £90m investment is enabling the Centres to harness leading UK research and expertise as well as build new infrastructures and innovation.

The four Agri-Tech Centres are in specific key areas:

- Crop and Soil Health and Protection
- Engineering and Precision Technologies
- Animal Productivity, Welfare and Health
- Data Science, Analytics and Modelling

Innovation and Knowledge Centres

Innovation and Knowledge Centres (IKCs) are a key component of the UK's approach to the commercialisation of emerging technologies through creating early stage critical mass in an area of disruptive technology. They are able to achieve this through their international quality research capability and access to companion technologies needed to commercialise research.

Based in a university they are led by an expert entrepreneurial team. While continuing to advance the research agenda, they create impact by enhancing wealth generation of the businesses with which they work.

Seven IKCs have been funded since 2007:

- Cambridge Innovation and Knowledge Centre (CIKC): Advanced Manufacturing Technologies for Photonics and Electronics – University of Cambridge
- Ultra-Precision and Structured Surfaces – Cranfield University
- Centre for Secure Information Technologies – Queen's University Belfast
- Media Technologies – University of Leeds
- Sustainable Product Engineering Centre for Innovative Functional Industrial Coatings – Swansea University
- Centre for Smart Infrastructure and Construction – University of Cambridge
- Synthetic Biology Innovation and Commercialisation Industrial translation Engine – Imperial College London

The KTN Ltd

Knowledge Transfer Network is Innovate UK's network partner and provides innovative networking for other funders in line with its mission to drive UK economic growth. KTN links new ideas and opportunities with expertise, markets and finance through our network of businesses, universities, funders and investors. From agri-food to autonomous systems and from energy to design, KTN combines in-depth knowledge in all sectors with the ability to cross boundaries.

4. Role Specification

It is essential that in your application you address as many of the criteria in the specification as you can. These criteria will be explored further with those who are invited to interview.

Title:	Industry Sector Ambassadors
Band:	Executive
Reports to:	Executive Chair – Innovate UK
Location:	Field based
Contract:	Fixed term position for a minimum of 12 months
Hours:	Two days per month – with flexibility according to business demand

The Organisation:

Innovate UK is part of UK Research and Innovation:

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is a new entity that brings together nine partners to create an independent organisation with a strong voice for research and innovation and a vision to ensure the UK maintains its world-leading position in research and innovation.

Innovate UK is the UK's innovation agency:

Innovate UK works with people, companies, industries, sectors and partner organisations to find and drive the science, research and development, technology, business models, process and commercial innovations that will grow the UK economy - increasing productivity, creating higher value jobs and expanding exports. Our aim at Innovate UK is to increase the UK's global competitiveness in the race for future prosperity.

For further information and to stay updated on our latest news visit

www.gov.uk/innovateuk, follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/innovateuk) at @innovateuk or subscribe to our [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/InnovateUK) at www.youtube.com/InnovateUK.

Context:

Ambassadors are prominent, thought-leading business principals within their industry sector; they are advocates for the UK's excellence in research and innovation, on both the national and international level. Ambassadors understand the changing business environment and potential for Innovate UK to incentivise business to deliver novel and improved products and services, support business growth, establish the UK's leadership in new markets and deliver real economic growth in the UK in times of dynamic change. As well as promoting Innovate UK, Ambassadors communicate information about Innovate UK's programmes and activities to industry. Each Ambassador will work within their broad sector of the economy or business environment and will be adept at promoting and

representing Innovate UK, providing constructive challenge and channelling the needs, views and opportunities of their sector.

Innovate UK is seeking Ambassadors for the following sectors:

- Services;
- Aging society, health and nutrition;
- Artificial intelligence (AI) and the data economy;
- Clean growth and infrastructure; and,
- Mobility, manufacturing and materials.

Each Ambassador should have a high-profile, be well-connected within their sector, with a successful track-record of leadership and delivery of commercial growth. They should be able to give advice based on current, sector relevant, policy recommendations and trends which enable innovative companies to invest, grow and succeed in the UK.

As a whole the five Ambassadors will provide a network of powerful advocates promoting business-led innovation in the UK and abroad and the role of publicly funded support.

Job Purpose:

Ambassadors act for businesses and as influencers for Innovate UK within each sector, they convey knowledge about Innovate UK's programmes and activities to companies of all sizes within the innovation landscape. Revered within their area of expertise, Ambassadors are expected to be visible within the innovation ecosystem and internally, within Innovate UK.

Working collaboratively with the Innovate UK Executive Chair, relevant Directors, Deputy Directors, Heads of Function and teams, Ambassadors contribute to thought leadership providing regular, high-level support, knowledge and advice on critical issues effecting the sector.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide a unique perspective of innovation across sector landscapes.
- Represent Innovate UK at meetings, conferences and regional events which help develop and publicise Innovate UK's work.
- Convene roundtables and facilitate new connections to Innovate UK and UKRI.
- Stimulate and facilitate partnership and working across industry, Innovate UK and UKRI.
- Work to drive outcomes, progress Innovate UK's strategic goals and enable opportunities for UK business.
- Work with each Innovate UK sector team providing knowledge of corporate innovation at a working level.
- Provide industry insights which may help focus future challenges, working with SMEs, upskilling, enabling Innovate UK to foster business-led innovation and help the Government achieve its target of 2.4% GDP spend on R&D by 2021.

This is an outline description of the key responsibilities and accountabilities involved in the job. This is not an exhaustive list and the post-holder might be expected to undertake any other duties across the wider directorate, commensurate with the Band and level of responsibility of this post, for which the post holder has the necessary experience and/or training.

Person Specification:

You will have a wealth of business experience and expertise gained from your current or former roles within industry. You will be an exceptionally effective and proactive leader, who is flexible, able to develop and maintain effective working relationships and influence with stakeholders across the breadth of the UK economy, academia, industry and Government.

Qualifications:

Essential –

- A recognised leader within your sector
- A passion for business-led innovation in your area of expertise.
- Respected in your field, not only by larger companies or primes, but by innovative scale-ups and, or, entrepreneurs.

Desirable –

- Educated to degree-level in a relevant discipline
- Professional qualifications and relevant fellowships.
- Familiarity with roadmaps and industry strategies in your area of expertise.

Experience:

Essential –

- Proven senior level experience and delivery in complex political and strategic environments within your sector.
- Expert understanding of the sectoral drivers and the economic environment supporting technologies in the sector.
- Effective existing professional relationships which can be built on.
- You will have a proven track record of creating, or delivering strategies, interventions, and innovative solutions to complex issues.

Desirable –

- Familiarity with the workings of government, government organisations and customers.
- Technical expertise developed through senior leadership in a research, development and innovation intensive industry or industries.

Skills:

- An inspirational, motivational, and influential leader with deep integrity and professional credibility, you will demonstrate a flair for negotiation and forging partnerships.
- Proven ability to engage strategically across a complex landscape of communities and stakeholders.
- Able to develop and maintain working relationships and influence with senior and executive level individuals across the breadth of the innovation landscape.
- You will have proven leadership skills as indicated through your business experience and c-suite level of influence.
- Analytical skills and lateral thinking to develop creative and innovative solutions.
- Excellent oral, written and visual communication skills.

Competencies:

As with all roles at Innovate UK applicants will need to demonstrate compatibility with and capability against our Core Competencies:

Thinking and Problem Solving – Stakeholder management – Communication skills – Influencing – Self-awareness/self-management – Strategic awareness – Working with others– Project management

Travel Requirements:

There may be the occasional requirement for national and international travel.

Additional Details

Innovate UK is part of UK Research and Innovation. If successful in securing the position, your employer will be UK Research and Innovation. More information can be found online <http://www.ukri.org/>

UKRI supports research in areas that include animal health, agriculture and food security, and bioscience for health which includes research on animals, genetic modification and stem cell research. Whilst you may not have direct involvement in this type of research, you should consider whether this conflicts with your personal values or beliefs.

To enable us to hire the very best people we will conduct a full and comprehensive pre-employment check as an essential part of the recruitment process on all individuals that are offered a position with UKRI. This will include a security check and an extreme organisations affiliation check.

Parking

Limited parking subject to waiting list (Polaris House, Swindon only)

Employee Benefits

UK Research and Innovation recognises and values employees as individuals and aim to provide a pay and rewards package that motivates staff to perform to the best of their ability. The reward package includes a flexible working scheme, a career average defined benefit pension scheme, 30 days' annual leave allowance (full time equivalent) and a number of other benefits.

Developing Talent

We are committed to developing employees in their roles throughout their career. Learning and development plans enable employees to continue their professional development through training and development opportunities such as e-learning, classroom training and on-the-job experiences. We encourage our employees to share their learning across teams and organisations.

Equal Opportunities

We strive to make decisions based on individual merit and ability. We welcome applications from all sections of the community and promote equality of opportunity in accordance with the Equality Act 2010. As holders of Disability Confident Employer status, we guarantee to interview all applicants with disabilities who meet the minimum criteria for the vacancy. Final appointments will be subject to pre-employment screening. We want to ensure that we select the person that most closely evidences their suitability against the specified criteria. If you feel that the way our selection methods/assessments are structured, could benefit from being adjusted, to help you convey your suitability, please let us know so that we can discuss your requirements with you.

5. Timetable

Applicants should note the key dates when you may be required to submit information and/or participate in assessment, subject to progression at each stage.

- Closing date for applications is 15th June
- Screening conversations will take place prior to Final Panel
- Final Panel interviews will be held on 2nd/3rd July

The dates given are indicative and subject to change.

Zoom, Telephone, video conference and Skype facilities are also available if necessary.

6. How to Apply

For an information pack and an informal and confidential conversation, visit www.bd-search.co.uk or call our advising consultants to schedule a conversation:

- Baljit Dhadda on 020 3906 7776 or 07736 880699 or Peter Ward on 07711 058871.

To submit your application details email Baljit.Dhadda@bd-search.co.uk or via the portal www.bd-search.co.uk/opportunities

You will be required to submit:

- A CV
- A brief supporting statement that provides evidence of the competencies outlined in the Person Specification.
- *You will also be asked to complete an Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form which can be found at www.bd-search.co.uk or from Jo Phillips at Jo.Phillips@bd-search.co.uk
- *You will be asked to submit a Declaration of Interests

Reasonable expenses for unavoidable travel expenses about attending interviews will be reimbursed.

Diversity policy

Innovate UK is committed to providing equal opportunities for all, irrespective of race, age, disability, gender, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, transgender and working patterns.

This appointment will be conducted in line with principles of merit, fairness and openness.

Confidentiality and Data Protection

We are required to process confidential data as part of the recruitment process. All data is stored on a secure database and is fully compliant with General Data Protection Regulations. Please contact Baljit Dhadda at Baljit.Dhadda@bd-search.co.uk if you have any confidentiality concerns.

