



BBSRC ACTIVATING IMPACT COMPETITION

CALL TEXT

INTRODUCTION

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) has a responsibility to enable the optimal and successful application of the outcomes of the excellent research it funds.

As part of this responsibility BBSRC aspires to enable and ensure that the knowledge exchange and commercialisation infrastructure, approaches, and activities of universities and institutes in receipt of BBSRC funding, are able to deliver the widest impact and benefit to society and the economy from the excellent research, people and capabilities supported by BBSRC. Such application may lead to direct financial impact through commercialisation or, more commonly, through the development of research outcomes to deliver wider benefit in a range of different areas of society and the economy¹.

The Activating Impact Competition has been developed to acknowledge, raise awareness of and celebrate the activities of successful Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation (KEC) Teams or Individuals that make an essential contribution to delivering impact from excellent bioscience research and capabilities supported by BBSRC.

BBSRC Activating Impact Competition aims to:

- Recognise the important contribution made by professional KEC staff working with researchers to turning excellent bioscience into real-life benefits.
- Enable the sharing of best practice in KEC amongst the bioscience community.
- Stimulate innovative approaches to future KEC activities in the biosciences.

The winning organisation will receive £50K (up to two runner-ups will receive £25K) to contribute to the delivery of an aspect of the organisation's strategy for KEC of relevance to BBSRC as identified in the entry.

THE COMPETITION

To participate in the Competition, teams (or individuals) are required to submit an entry that describes how the entrant(s) have made an essential contribution to enable the intellectual assets, arising from BBSRC supported research and capabilities, progress towards application and the delivery of public benefit and impact. The approach and contribution of

¹ BBSRC Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation (KEC) Policy

<http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/web/FILES/Policies/knowledge-exchange-commercialisation-policy.pdf>

the entrants will need to be described within the context of their Research Organisation's strategy, vision and future plans for KEC (including how the award money would be used to support the strategy). Entries will be assessed by a panel of experts that will include experienced academics, industrialists, technology transfer/KEC professionals and social scientists who will select the best entries to go forward to the competition final. The finalists will be assessed by a separate Judging Panel.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to Research Organisations whose total value of BBSRC grants live on 1st April 2012 exceeded £5M and all BBSRC strategically funded institutes [[Annex 1](#)]. Each eligible organisation can lead on only one entry, although additional cross-organisation entries are welcome. Entries for the Competition must be submitted by the Technology Transfer Office/Knowledge Exchange Office or equivalent within the eligible organisation.

THE AWARD

The winning organisation will receive £50K (up to two runner-ups will receive £25K) to contribute to the delivery of an aspect of the organisation's KEC plans of relevance to BBSRC, as identified in the entry. Awards will be made alongside the annual 'BBSRC Innovator of the Year' award and finalists will be expected to be available for interview and to receive the award on either 19th or 20th March 2013 (date tbc).

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Entries for the BBSRC Activating Impact Competition will be assessed by expert Panels to be appointed by BBSRC. The Panels will assess entries against the following criteria:

- **Strategy and vision for KEC**
 - The strength of alignment and/or complementarity of the Research Organisation's vision and approach to KEC, for BBSRC supported research and capabilities, to BBSRC's policy for KEC²
- **Added value of the entrant(s)**
 - The quality and extent of the example(s) demonstrating progression of the outcomes of BBSRC supported research and capabilities towards impact
 - The extent to which the entrant(s) have contributed and added value to the example(s) of KEC
 - The extent to which the example(s) align with the Research Organisation's vision and approach to KEC
- **Future plans for KEC to deliver impact**
 - The quality and/or innovative nature of the Research Organisation's future plans to deliver impact through KEC from BBSRC supported research and capabilities
 - The appropriate use of the award money in delivering an aspect of the above

² BBSRC Knowledge Exchange and Commercialisation (KEC) Policy

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ENTRIES

Lead Entrants should complete all sections of the Entry Form. Entries shortlisted for the award will be invited to make a presentation to a Panel of Judges on the day of the award presentation at a high-profile event in London on either 19th or 20th March 2013 (date tbc).

Entries should include a letter of support from the Head of your Knowledge Exchange/Technology Transfer Office or equivalent and must include confirmation that these individuals have read the entry and support its contents.

CONTACTS

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For entry submissions:

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Annex 1

Alphabetical list of Research Organisations whose total value of BBSRC grants live on 1st April 2012 exceeded £5M and all BBSRC-strategically funded institutes.

Aberystwyth University	University of Cambridge
Babraham Institute	University of Dundee
Cardiff University	University of East Anglia
Durham University	University of Edinburgh
EMBL - European Bioinformatics Institute	University of Exeter
Imperial College London	University of Glasgow
Institute of Animal Health	University of Kent
Institute of Biological, Environmental & Rural Sciences	University of Leeds
Institute of Food Research	University of Leicester
John Innes Centre	University of Liverpool
King's College London	University of Manchester
Newcastle University	University of Nottingham
Queen Mary, University of London	University of Oxford
Rothamsted Research	University of Reading
Royal Veterinary College	University of Sheffield
The Genome Analysis Centre	University of Southampton
The Roslin Institute	University of St Andrews
University College London	University of Surrey
University of Aberdeen	University of Sussex
University of Birmingham	University of Warwick
University of Bristol	University of York