The Digital Solutions for Energy Transition and Manufacturing call pairs up challenge holders from both the energy and manufacturing industries with a digital company to be part of a proof of value project. There is up to £50,000 funding available to the digital company to create a solution for one of the challenges presented.

Our application process has been split into two phases, targeting both the challenge holders and solution providers.

Phase one: In phase one we identified companies from across the energy and manufacturing industries with existing challenges across the areas of data sharing, asset tracking, or ESG and sustainability compliance.

Phase two: We are now in phase two, and we’re looking for digital companies that can provide a solution to the challenges presented by the phase one companies.

Individual companies from both phases will be paired up and will work together over a three to six month proof of value project.

This innovation call was created in collaboration with the Net Zero Technology Centre, National Manufacturing Institute Scotland, and the Digital Trust Taskforce.

**Notes on completing this form:**

This form has 12 sections with guidance on how to complete them included at the beginning of each. You must fill in all sections of this form which can be used to apply for one challenge only. If you wish to apply for more than one challenge a separate application form should be completed, however for subsequent forms you need only complete your company name in section 1 and then fully complete sections 4-12 inclusive. You can only be successful once.

You can find the full details of the call, including eligibility criteria and the closing date for applications on the Scottish Enterprise website: [Digital solutions for energy transition and manufacturing | Scottish Enterprise](https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/support-for-businesses/funding-and-grants/business-grants-and-funding-calls/digital-solutions-for-energy-transition-and-manufacturing)

In order to comply with UK government [sanctions legislation](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.legislation.gov.uk%2Fukpga%2F2018%2F13%2Fcontents%2Fenacted&data=05%7C01%7CMichael.Cannon%40scotent.co.uk%7C2eb97bcddaf74d9008b508da75f5faf2%7C50374495fdde4d04bc5c574982680e19%7C0%7C0%7C637951996593894271%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tm6kL4cQvcbMfwhu3%2F%2BS7TYE9rYPVacXCRA7a6r4Oms%3D&reserved=0) and Scottish Government [guidance in relation to trading with Russia and Belarus](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.scot%2Fnews%2Fstop-trading-with-russia%2F&data=05%7C01%7CMichael.Cannon%40scotent.co.uk%7C2eb97bcddaf74d9008b508da75f5faf2%7C50374495fdde4d04bc5c574982680e19%7C0%7C0%7C637951996593894271%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DRo7s6D5bIJWx25ceGuMnghNaQge2c7wU5NJyH7DePk%3D&reserved=0), as part of our appraisal of this application Scottish Enterprise will carry out sanctions checks on your company, shareholders and in some cases directors and may ask you about the nature of your trading and/or investment links with Russia and Belarus. Depending on the outcome of these checks Scottish Enterprise may decide not to support you or your company.

Please note that information (including any personal data) provided by you within and/or as part of this application may be shared with selected partners, including Net Zero Technology Centre (NZTC), the National Manufacturing Institute Scotland (NMIS), South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE), and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and be used by them to assess its suitability for support.

* if the application is successful:

the organisations will use the information provided in this application form for administration and management purposes, including carrying out appropriate audits and marketing (including contacting you with surveys about your experience). Some information may also be passed to auditors, for administrative purposes; and

* if the application is unsuccessful:

your name and address may be passed to other departments within Scottish Enterprise, NZTC, NMIS, SOSE, and HIE, to enable consideration of any suitable alternatives to Digital Solutions for Energy Transition and Manufacturing or whether support can be provided in any other way.

Please note that further information on how any personal information provided may be collected, used, shared, and looked after is set out in our [privacy notice](https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/help/privacy-notice)**.**

We are committed to encouraging applicants from all backgrounds. We will treat all applications equally. Please email your completed application(s), along with any supporting documents as specified in sections 5 and 9 below, to enquiries@scotent.co.uk by the closing date with the subject line “Digital Solutions for Energy Transition and Manufacturing Application”.

**Section 1 – About you and your company**

For the purposes of our funding eligibility rules, including eligibility under our Subsidy Schemes, a small or medium sized enterprise (“SME”) has:

* fewer than 250 full-time equivalent employees; and
* an annual turnover of no more than €50 million and/or an annual balance sheet total of no more than €43 million.

Where you are part of a corporate group or have close connections with other enterprises, you may also have to take their data into account. You can find further guidance on this here: [Supplementary information: Small and Medium-sized Enterprises definition (HTML) - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-act-2023-short-guides/supplementary-information-small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-definition-html). If you have any questions regarding the data to use when calculating staff numbers and financial amounts, please contact us before submitting this application.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company name |  |
| Registered address |  |
| Company registration number |  |
| VAT registration number |  |
| SME | Please select |
| Your Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Telephone |  |
| Email Address |  |

If you are submitting more than one application, please list each challenge here in order of preference. All applications will be scored equally and your preference only taken into account in the event that your company scores highest for more than one challenge.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Preference | Challenge |
| 1 | Please select |
| 2 | Please select |
| 3 | Please select |
| 4 | Please select |
| 5 | Please select |
| 6 | Please select |

**Section 2 – Minimal Financial Assistance**

You are required as part of this application to declare any amounts of funding of the types described below which have been received by you from any UK public sources from 1 April 2023.

1. Please provide details in the table below of all of the following types of subsidy:
* Any type of de minimis aid given by virtue of the Northern Ireland Protocol or EU funded on or after 1 April 2023;
* Minimal Financial Assistance (MFA) given under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 on or after 1 April 2023.
* Service of Public Economic Interest (SPEI) assistance given under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 on or after 1 April 2023.
1. You should include details of support received by you or any other entity forming part of your enterprise. Your enterprise includes all entities under common ownership or control.
2. If you have received public sector support in the past, you should have been notified in writing of any de minimis, MFA or SPEI assistance element when the funding was awarded.

Further information on Minimal Financial Assistance is available here: [Minimal Financial Assistance guidance for companies | Scottish Enterprise](https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/support-for-businesses/funding-and-grants/business-grants-and-funding-calls/minimal-financial-assistance-guidance)

If your company is part of a group under a parent company, MFA applies to the whole group not just the company base in Scotland. Please bear this in mind when completing this section. If you have no funding to declare please add “nothing to declare” to the table below. Do not leave blank.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date (MM/YY) | Public Authority Source | Project Title | Type of Subsidy | Grant, Loan, or other subsidy instrument | Amount (£) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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**Section 3 – Fair Work First and Net Zero Criteria**

To be eligible for this call, your business must be committed to fair working practices. This means work must offer all individuals an effective voice, opportunity, security, fulfilment, and respect. It also includes paying employees at least the real Living Wage which is £12.60 per hour as of 1st April 2025. You can find out more about fair working practices and access free resources using the [Fair Work Employer Support Tool.](https://fairworktool.scot/)We also ask whether your business has a Net Zero Plan in place.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Demonstrate | Working Towards | Unable to Commit |
| Payment of Real Living Wage |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| No inappropriate use of Zero Hour Contracts |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Appropriate channels for effective voice |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Investment in workforce development |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Action to tackle the gender pay gap and create a more diverse and inclusive workplace |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Flexible and Family Friendly Practices |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| No Fire and Rehire policies |[ ] [ ] [ ]
| Does your business have a credible plan in place to reduce operational greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero by 2045 at the latest? |[ ] [ ] [ ]

**Section 4 – Project Details**

**Overview:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Challenge applied for | Please select |
| Project Title |  |
| Expected duration (months) |  |
| Total project spend (£) |  |
| Total grant requested (£) |  |
| Are you in receipt of any other public sector funds towards the same project, or any other costs associated with the project? | Please select |
| Has the project started or are there any contractual obligations in place which mean you are already committed to carrying out this project? | Please select |

**Impacts:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Current | +3 years without grant | +3 years with grant |
| Annual Turnover (£) |  |  |  |
| Number of Employees (FTE) |  |  |  |

Does your project involve trade in goods and/or electricity in Northern Ireland? If yes, please provide further information.

**Section 5 – Proposal**

Explain your idea and how it responds to the challenge statement as clearly and concisely as you can. You must explain the specific challenge you are addressing, how your proposed solution will solve it, and the current state of development (or readiness) of the idea. Describe and key technical challenges associated with this project and any research and development activities involves in solving these challenges. Ensure that the use of blockchain in your solution is clearly outlined in the proposal. You may provide additional drawings and/or images to aid in explaining your proposal, limited to a single A4 page in PDF format.

**Section 6 – Innovation**

Please explain the key technical innovations in your proposed project. Describe how your proposed approach will improve on current solutions in the marketplace. Describe this project’s background IP and evidence the extent to which you have confirmed third-party IP rights will not limit your commercialisation. Please also describe what foreground IP will be generated as a result of this project and your plans to protect and exploit this.

**Section 7 – Commercial Potential**

Please describe the commercial opportunities you will exploit with your proposed solution, considering wider markets and export potential. Provide details of your proposed routes to market beyond the proof of value project and describe who are your target customers. Explain your solution’s unique selling point/value proposition and describe your competitive advantage.

**Section 8 – Business, Team, and Resources**

Please provide a brief description of your business, and biographies of the technical team, with a focus on experience and skills relevant to this application, and the use of blockchain within it. Specify the time that each team member will allocate to the project. Comment on the commercial and business expertise available within your team and organisation and how these may support the successful commercialisation of the outcomes of this project. Identify any other resources required to successfully implement the proposal and if there are gaps, please briefly describe the plan to address these. Please also identify subcontractors or consultants (including academic partners) working on the project and describe their contribution if applicable.

**Section 9 – Project Plan**

Please provide a separate single sheet (A4) Gantt chart in PDF format to illustrate the proposed project plan. This should clearly show key milestones and deliverables, along with a breakdown of work-packages. Activity owners should be identified, along with any subcontractors, consultants, and, in general, any third parties working in the project by adding their names next to relevant activities. The space below can be used to provide further details that support the project Gantt chart.

Detail your approach to project management and describe the main technical, commercial and broader risks associated to the proposed project and explain your proposed mitigation strategies. An additional risk analysis matrix can also be provided as a separate single sheet (A4-size, PDF format).

**Section 10 – Need for Support**

You must demonstrate that you need a grant to proceed with the project. Explain why you need financial help and how it would affect the project. For example, you may otherwise not carry out the project at all, or it may be at a reduced scale, or over a longer period.

**Section 11 – Project Costs**

Please describe the project finances and provide a detailed breakdown of costs in the following table. You should include detail on how much time will be spent working with the challenge holder and what the rate for this work would be. All costs should be before VAT unless your business is not registered for VAT. You must give additional details to fully justify your project costs. Please refer to the guidance on grant claim evidence here: [Guidance on grant claim evidence | Scottish Enterprise](https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/help/claims-guidance)

**Cost breakdown:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Breakdown** | **Total** |
| **Salary costs***Salary costs are capped at £60,000 per annum or pro rata equivalent.* |  |  |
| **Materials***Only new materials bought after the start of the project are eligible costs.* |  |  |
| **Sub-contract charges***Where the production of samples, prototypes, or testing is being sub-contracted to a third party.* |  |  |
| **Consultancy fees***Specialists who are contracted to provide specific skills and expertise for the project.* |  |  |
|  | Total Project Cost: |  |

**Section 12 – Declaration**

By signing this application,

* You acknowledge that the information provided in this application may comprise company information and personal data (as defined in the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 (“Data Protection Laws”)). Any personal data provided in the application will be processed by Scottish Enterprise in accordance with Data Protection Laws and held in accordance with the privacy notice which can be found at <https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/help/privacy-notice>**.** Individuals can find information on their rights in respect of the personal data we hold by reading this privacy notice.
* You confirm that your company does not currently or intend to: trade; act on behalf of; provide services to; have investment links with; or otherwise have any presence in Russia and/or Belarus.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signature |  |
| Date |  |
| Name (BLOCK CAPITALS) |  |
| Position in your organization |  |

**Please note this must be someone authorised to sign on behalf of the company and registered on Companies House.**