



THE KING'S AWARDS FOR ENTERPRISE: YOUNG FOUNDER 2027



This PDF version of the Young Founder Award application is for **reference only**.

To apply for this award, **you must complete the online form. Do not send this PDF version of the form** to apply for this award.

Before you begin:

The application process:

1. Complete the online eligibility questionnaire before you start preparing the answers
 - This is to ensure that your organisation meets the key eligibility criteria for an award.
 - It will take about 10 minutes to complete.
2. Complete the online form
 - You can use the PDF version of the application form for planning purposes only.
 - You **must** complete the **online form**.
 - The online form can be completed over a number of days.
 - You can save and return to the online form at any point.
 - Collaborators can work on the form simultaneously in different sections. However, we advise that one person works on a section at a time to avoid data saving issues.
3. Submit your application
 - The deadline for submissions is **9 Sep 2026** at 1:00pm.
 - You can still edit submitted applications up to this date.

Guidance on answering questions:

- Read through all the questions carefully before starting to answer so that you can plan your responses and avoid repetition.
- Plan enough time to prepare your responses, allowing time for refinement to ensure high-calibre submission before the deadline.
- Sections C and E require longer text responses - start planning these as soon as you can.
- You may want to spread your application over several weeks to allow time for collecting external evidence.
- You may need to get your accountant to help with section D - allow sufficient time for that.
- All questions are mandatory unless specified otherwise, but if the question is not applicable to your organisation, you can state so, explaining why it is not applicable.
- Question numbers in the online version of the form aren't always consecutive, as we show and hide different questions depending on your previous answers.
- Your information is only shared with those involved in the assessment process.

Copying answers from a document into online application forms

If you want to copy your answers from a text document like Microsoft Word into an online application form, please paste text without formatting for it to appear correctly. You can do so in one of three ways:

1. Remove formatting when pasting

- Use the shortcut Ctrl+Shift+V (Windows) or Command+Shift+V (Mac) to paste text without formatting.

2. First remove formatting in Microsoft Word

- Option 1: Select the text and press Ctrl+Shift+N (Windows) or Command+Shift+N (Mac).
- Option 2: Select the text and click the 'Clear Formatting' button on the Home tab.

3. Use an online tool

- Use an online tool to remove formatting, such as <https://www.striphtml.com/>.

Use of web-based AI and editing tools in King's Awards applications:

We recognise that web-based AI and editing tools can greatly assist writing and editing and can help improve grammar and overall style. There may be issues to consider when entering information and generating text via web-based AI and online editing tools. We have included more guidance online in the 'Useful Application Info' section.

Need help?

If you need digital assistance with filling in the form or have any questions, please feel free to get in touch with us:

By calling 020 4551 0081

Or emailing kingsawards@businessandtrade.gov.uk

CONSENT & DUE DILIGENCE:

About section A

This section confirms you're authorised to apply, that your organisation's conduct meets the standards expected of a King's Awards recipient, and outlines the due diligence and financial process. Please complete Section A carefully before continuing with your application.

Financial information - what you need to submit

- You must provide financial figures that have been approved by your Board (or equivalent governing body).
- You do **not** need to submit externally verified figures as part of your initial application.
- The figures you submit should be accurate and reflect your organisation's agreed position, as they will be used for assessment.

We have taken this approach to keep the application process proportionate and to reduce unnecessary cost and burden for applicants.

Please note:

- We may ask you to provide externally verified figures at a later stage **if required**, for example where clarification is needed.
- Any request for verification will be made on an **exception basis**, rather than as a routine requirement for all applicants.

A1. Authorisation

Please note that A1 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

A1.1. Consent to apply granted by the head of the organisation

- ☐ I confirm that I have the consent of the head of my organisation to fill in and submit this entry form.

A1.2. Details of the head (CEO, Founder, MD, etc.) of your organisation:

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Job title or role in the organisation:

Email address:

Personal Honours (optional):

A1.3. Will your founder be aged between 18 and 30 on 6th May 2027?

☐ Yes

☐ No

A2. Conduct and Compliance

Please note that A2 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

This section introduces questions about your organisation's conduct.

A2.1. Strong environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) record

Please see section E for further information on ESG standards.

- ☐ I can confirm that our organisation has upheld strong environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards for at least 2 years or the application period, whichever is longer.

A2.2. Briefly explain any past regulatory issues and how they were resolved.

For example, non-compliance, breaches, or fines.

Word limit: 200

A2.3. Organisation's conduct

The King's Awards recognise exemplary business leaders. Recipients must uphold standards that reflect positively on the Awards, including acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly, and maintaining a strong professional reputation.

- ☐ I confirm that my organisation upholds high standards of conduct and leadership and merits consideration for a Royal Award.

A3. Due Diligence Checks

Please note that A3 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

Before applying, check for any issues that could affect due diligence clearance. You must show responsible practices and a strong compliance record over the past 2 years or the application period, whichever is longer. Please consult your directors, accountant, or legal advisers if unsure.

Resolved non-compliance prior to the application period will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Examples of issues that may affect your eligibility for a King's Award:

- Fines, penalties, or warnings from government bodies
- Late or incorrect tax payments
- Regulatory non-compliance
- Failure to pay minimum wage
- Workplace incidents causing harm
- Environmental pollution
- Incomplete or late government filings

Government Departments and Agencies we undertake due diligence checks with:

- Biotechnology & Biological Sciences Research Council
- Cabinet Office
- Charity Commission
- Companies House
- Competition and Markets Authority
- Crown Commercial Service
- Department for Business and Trade
- Department for Communities and Local Government
- Department for Culture, Media & Sport
- Department for Education
- Department for Energy, Security and Net Zero
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

- Department for International Trade
- Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
- Department for Transport
- Department of Economic Development, Isle of Man
- Department for the Economy NI
- Department of Health
- Environment Agency
- Financial Conduct Authority
- Food Standards Agency
- Forestry Commission
- Guernsey Government
- Health and Safety Executive
- HM Courts & Tribunals Service
- HM Revenue & Customs
- Home Office
- Insolvency Service
- Intellectual Property Office
- Invest NI
- Jersey Government
- Ministry of Defence
- Ministry of Justice
- Medical Research Council Technology
- National Measurement Office
- Natural England
- Natural Environment Research Council
- Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Funding Council
- Serious Fraud Office
- Trades Union Congress
- UK Export Finance
- Wales Government

A3.1. Consent to due diligence checks

- ☐ I consent to due diligence checks being carried out by The King's Awards for Enterprise Office with government departments and agencies. The King's Awards Office is impartial and cannot arbitrate.

A3.2. Acceptance of due diligence outcome

- ☐ I accept that the outcome of these due diligence checks is final.

A4. Submission of figures

- ☐ I understand that as part of the application process, I will provide financial figures that have been approved by the organisation's Board (or equivalent). If shortlisted, I understand that The King's Awards Office may ask for these figures as verified by an independent accountant (and this may involve costs to my organisation).

A4.1. Consent to enquiries by The King's Awards Office

- ☐ I consent to all necessary enquiries by The King's Awards Office and assessors, including checks with Government Departments and Agencies, to ensure eligibility and propriety.

ORGANISATION DETAILS:

About section B

This section collects key details about your organisation to support identification and due diligence. Please ensure accuracy, as changes can't be made after submission. If you're a small organisation, answer all questions as best you can—impact and context will be considered during assessment

B1-B2. Structure and operations

Please note that B1-B2 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B1. Are you applying on behalf of your whole organisation or a division/subsidiary?

- ☐ Whole organisation
- ☐ Subsidiary

B2. Do you operate as a principal (i.e. invoice customers directly)?

We recommend that you apply as a principal. A principal invoices its customers (or their buying agents) and is the body to receive those payments.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

B2.1. Explain your relationship with the invoicing unit and the arrangements made.

Answer this question if you selected 'No' in question B2.

Word limit: 100

B3-B4. Legal and registration

Please note that B3-B4 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B3. What is your legal entity type?

All types of organisations are eligible to apply for The King's Award for Enterprise.

- ☐ Sole Trader

- ☐ Partnership
- ☐ Limited Company (Ltd)
- ☐ Public Limited Company (Plc)
- ☐ Community Interest Company (CIC)
- ☐ Charity
- ☐ Other

Please specify if selected Other

B4. Provide your company or charity registration number or enter 'N/A'.

To be eligible, organisations must be based in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

If you are an unregistered subsidiary, enter your parent company's registration number.

B4.1. Provide your VAT registration number or enter 'N/A'.

If you're an unregistered subsidiary, enter your parent company's VAT number.

B4.2. Full legal name of your business.

If your organisation is a company or charity, this must match the name associated with the company or charity registration number.

B4.3. Preferred name for the award certificate and announcements.

Enter the business' name as you'd like it to appear on the award certificate and announcements. This is usually your organisation's legal name. If using a brand or trading name, you may need to show it's owned or used by the legal entity. Avoid using all capital letters for readability.

B5-B6. Trading and contact information

Please note that B5-B6 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B5.1. Please select the nature of your business

- ☐ Start Up

☐ Scale-Up

☐ Unsure

B5.2. When did you start trading?

Your organisation must have started trading before 9 September 2024 to be eligible.

Day Month Year

B6. Trading address of your organisation.

If the address is in one of the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, select the Bailiwick of Guernsey (for islands of Guernsey, Herm, Alderney and Sark) or Bailiwick of Jersey (for the island of Jersey) or Isle of Man.

If the address is elsewhere in the country, please double-check the county using the GOV.UK tool: <https://www.gov.uk/find-local-council>

Building:

Town or city:

Postcode:

Street:

County/Crown Dependency:

B6.1. Main telephone number.

B7-B8. Media & online presence

Please note that B7-B8 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B7. Contact details for press enquiries.

If your application is successful, you may get contacted by the press.

Provide details of the most suitable person within the organisation to deal with the press. You will have the opportunity to update these at a later date if needed.

Title:

First name:

Last name:

Telephone:

Email address:

B8. Organisation's Website address.

Please provide the full website address, for example,
<https://www.yourcompanyname.com>

B8.1. Links to social media accounts, for example, LinkedIn, X, Instagram (optional).

Please note, when evaluating your application, the assessors may check your organisation's online presence.

B9-B10. Company structure

Please note that B9-B10 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B9. SIC code (industry classification).

Select the first four digits of the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code that best describes your organisation's current activities. More info:
<https://resources.companieshouse.gov.uk/sic/>.

Select SIC code (industry classification).

B10. Do you have a parent or a holding company?

☐ Yes

☐ No

B10.1. Name of the immediate parent company.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question B10.

B10.2. Country of the immediate parent company.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question B10.

B10.3. Does your immediate parent company have ultimate control of your organisation?

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question B10.

☐ Yes

☐ No

B10.4. The name of the organisation with ultimate control.

Answer this question if you selected 'No' in question B10.3 and if you selected 'Yes' in question B10.

B10.5. Country of organisation with ultimate control.

Answer this question if you selected 'No' in question B10.3 and if you selected 'Yes' in question B10.

B11-B14. Additional information

Please note that B11-B14 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

B11. Upload an organisational chart. (optional)

You can submit a file in most formats if it is less than five megabytes.

What are the accepted file formats?

You can upload any of the following file formats: chm, csv, diff, doc, docx, dot, dxf, eps, gif, gml, ics, jpg, kml, odp, ods, odt, pdf, png, ppt, pptx, ps, rdf, rtf, sch, txt, wsdl, xls, xlsx, xlt, xml, xsd, xslt, zip.

B12. Have you previously applied for or achieved any King's or Queen's Awards?

☐ Yes

☐ No

B12.1. List the Queen's/King's awards you have previously applied for or achieved.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question B12.

Year Awarded - Category - Outcome

B13. Have you won other awards?

☐ Yes

☐ No

B13.1. List the other awards you have won.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question B13.

If you can't fit all of your awards below, then choose those you're most proud of.

Word limit: 150

B14. How did you hear about the King's Awards?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ The King's Awards website
- ☐ The King's Awards X
- ☐ Other social media
- ☐ Another website
- ☐ The King's Awards event
- ☐ A third-party exhibition or event
- ☐ A newspaper or publication
- ☐ Word of mouth
- ☐ Other

B15. Diversity in your senior leadership team

Please note that B15 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

The next few questions ask about the diversity of your senior leadership team. Providing this information is optional, but it helps us better understand our award recipients and improve outreach across different UK business groups. Your responses will be kept confidential and used only internally to support this purpose. You can choose "Prefer not to say" for any question you do not wish to answer.

You can find details about how we manage personal data in the King's Awards for Enterprise Privacy Notice.

B15.1. Which generation(s) are represented in your senior leadership team? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Silent Generation (1928-1945)
- ☐ Baby Boomers (1946-1964)

- ☐ Generation X (1965-1980)
- ☐ Millennials / Generation Y (1981-1996)
- ☐ Generation Z (1997-2012)
- ☐ Prefer not to say

B15.2. Does your senior leadership team include individuals with disabilities?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

B15.3. Which ethnic backgrounds are represented in your senior leadership team? (select all that apply)

- ☐ White
- ☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
- ☐ Asian or Asian British
- ☐ Black, African, Caribbean or Black British
- ☐ Other ethnic group
- ☐ Prefer not to say

B15.4. Does your senior leadership team include women?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

B15.5. Does your senior leadership team include individuals from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to say

BUSINESS BACKGROUND:

About section C

We advise that the Founder of the business completes this section.

This section is your opportunity to share your journey as a young founder — from how your idea came to life, to how you brought it to market and the impact it's had. It helps the judging panel understand how your entrepreneurial approach drives your business forward and contributes to its success.

The questions in this section will be based on the following themes:

- Fresh Ideas & Creative Thinking
- Driving Growth & Industry Influence
- Leading the Way & Inspiring Others
- Smarter Working & Strategic Resilience
- Listening to Customers & Delivering Value

Word limits

What really counts is the quality of your story and insight. The word limits are just there to keep things focused and give you a sense of how much detail to include — so don't stress about hitting the exact number. Just make it clear, honest, and inspiring.

Technical language

Keep it clear and straightforward — Our assessors are business professionals, but they may not be familiar with your specific sector or product. There's no need to use technical language or industry jargon. Simply explain things in a way that anyone could understand. If you do need to use acronyms, please spell them out in full the first time they appear.

Supplementary materials

You can add up to three short, relevant files or weblinks in Section F (max 5MB each) to demonstrate points in your application. If you do, reference them by name in your answers. Keep them focused — assessors won't have time for long additional documents. Don't combine files or link to folders, and don't use these instead of answering the questions directly. These files are in addition to your **Introduction Video (section C.1)**.

C1. Founder Story

Please note that C1 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

C1.1. Tell us about yourself and your business - create a short video

We'd love to hear about you and your business journey — how your idea began,

how you brought it to life, and the impact it's making.

Please share your story in a short video (up to 2 minutes) and upload it to YouTube, sharing the link in the following text box. If a video isn't possible, you may submit a written response of up to 500 words.

Use this opportunity to show how your leadership, decisions and vision have shaped the direction and success of the business, and how your passion and creativity continue to drive it forward and inspire others.

If submitting a video:

- Upload your video to YouTube and set its visibility to Public or Unlisted so that assessors can view it.
- Do not set the video to Private, as this will prevent access.
- Double-check the video privacy settings and confirm that the video can be viewed using the link before submitting your application.

[Read guidance on how to upload a video to YouTube \(opens in a new tab\).](#)

Prompts for Your Video or Written Story

1. How did it all start?

What sparked your business idea?

2. Bringing it to life

What products or services do you offer? How did you turn the idea into reality?

3. Overcoming challenges

What hurdles did you face and how did you tackle them?

4. Making an impact

How is you and your business helping others or making a difference?

5. What drives you?

What keeps you motivated and inspired?

6. Looking ahead

What's next for you and your business?

If you are submitting a video, only a short description is required (15 words).

Description:

Video link:

C1.2. Briefly summarise your business in one sentence, highlighting its core purpose.

This summary will be used in publicity material if your application is successful. Previous examples have included:

- Empowering swift, scalable transitions to locally owned, low-carbon energy.

- Challenging boundaries of what is possible in sustainable construction through bespoke design and offsite manufacturing

Word limit: 15

C1.3. Fresh Ideas & Creative Thinking

Have you developed any innovative products, services, or business approaches in the past three years?

Tell us what you created and how it's made a difference. For example, to your company, customers, and sector.

Word limit: 200

C1.4. Growing your Business

How has your business grown over the last 1-2 years (or longer, if relevant)?

Use this section to explain how your business has grown in practice, not just financially.

Focus on what has changed over the last 1-2 years, for example:

- Growing your team or developing key skills
- Launching or improving products or services
- Winning new customers, markets or contracts
- Scaling operations or entering new markets (including exporting)

A strong answer shows clear progress over time, explains your role as the founder, and demonstrates that the business is successful and scalable.

Word limit: 200

C1.5. Leading the Way & Big Picture Thinking

How would you describe your leadership style as a Founder?

What is your company's long-term vision, and how do you communicate and implement it within your team?

Word limit: 200

C1.6. Resilience & Strategic Adaptability

Describe a major challenge or unexpected situation your business has faced. How did you respond, and what changes — if any — did you make to your business model or strategy?

For example, attracting funding/investors, targeted marketing or scaling a business.
We're interested in how you adapted and what you learned from the experience.
Word limit: 200

C1.7. Listening to Customers & Delivering Value

How do you track how satisfied your customers are with your product or service, and what are your latest results (e.g., Net Promoter Score, retention rates, repeat purchases)?

Can you share a real example where customer feedback helped you improve your product, service, or experience?

Word limit: 200

C1.8. Smarter Ways of Working

Have you introduced any innovative operational or technological processes?

How are you planning to adapt Artificial Intelligence (AI) and/or sustainable practices into the company to future-proof the business?

Please outline any planned or ongoing initiatives, and explain how these will enhance efficiency, innovation, or competitiveness.

Word limit: 200

C1.9. Making Your Mark in the Industry

How does your business contribute to shaping your industry or supporting your community?

Please share any links to publications, speaking engagements, awards, or other forms of recognition.

Word limit: 200

C1.10. Inspiring Others

Do you mentor other entrepreneurs or contribute to local business ecosystems?

How many individuals or startups have you supported, and can you share any success stories? For example:

- Championing Sustainability: Introduced eco-friendly practices that inspired others.

- Open-Source Contributions: Shared tools or frameworks to accelerate industry progress.
- Thought Leadership: Published insights via blogs, podcasts, or LinkedIn.
- Inclusive Hiring: Built diverse teams and shared recruitment strategies.
- Industry Collaboration: Formed or joined networks to tackle shared challenges.
- Education & Upskilling: Offered free workshops or online learning resources.
- Policy Advocacy: Worked with authorities to improve conditions for businesses.
- Sharing Success Stories: Openly shared wins and setbacks to help others learn.

Even in the early stages of building a business, young entrepreneurs can demonstrate leadership, innovation, and community impact through small but meaningful actions like these:

- You've joined a local startup meetup or online community where you share advice or answer questions.
- You've offered informal guidance to a friend starting a business.
- You wrote a LinkedIn post about lessons learned in your first year of business.
- You were a guest on a small podcast or hosted an Instagram Live to share your journey.
- You offered shadowing opportunities or informal training to someone curious about your field.

Word limit: 200

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

About section D

This section helps us assess the commercial impact of your product/service. Please ensure all figures are accurate and have been approved by your Board (or equivalent governing body) as you may be asked need to verify them if shortlisted.

Eligibility criteria

To apply, your organisation must meet at least one of the following:

- A minimum £250,000 turnover with demonstrable growth, or
- A minimum £500,000 of external investment

D1. Enter your financial year-end date.

Day Month

D1.1. Which year would you like to be your most recent financial year for submitted figures?

- ☐ 2025
- ☐ 2026

D2. Did your year-end date change during your five most recent financial years that you will be providing figures for?

If you started trading within the last five years, answer if your year-end date has changed since you started trading.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

D2.1. Enter your year-end dates for each financial year.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D2.

We recommend that you answer question B5 before proceeding with this and further questions, as this will automatically adjust the number of years you need to provide the figures for.

Financial year 1

Financial year 2

Financial year 3

Financial year 4

Financial year 5 (most recent)

D2.2. Explain adjustments to figures.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D2.

If your year-end changed, explain how figures have been adjusted to reflect 12-month periods.

Word limit: 200

D2.3. Explain why your year-end date changed.

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D2.

Word limit: 100

D3. UK Employment Figures

Provide the number of UK-based employees for each financial year. You must have a minimum of two full-time (or part-time equivalent) employees.

- Use full-time or full-time equivalent (FTE) numbers.
- Include only Channel Islands or Isle of Man employees if based there.
- Enter '0' if you had none.

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4. Company Financials

Please note that D4 is just a heading for the following sub-questions.

Eligibility

You must be able to prove that you have generated a minimum annual turnover of £250,000 with demonstrable growth, or secured external investment of £500,000 or more.

Group entries

If applying as a parent company, include trading figures for all UK subsidiaries.

Required figures

Provide figures for your five most recent financial years.

If you've traded for fewer than five years, submit figures for the years available.

You must provide at least two full financial years (24 months).

Estimates

If your latest year-end is before the September deadline and approved figures aren't ready, you may submit estimates.

Board (or equivalent governing body) approved figures must be submitted by mid-November.

If approved financials won't be ready, you can use the previous year's approved figures.

Figures - format

Use £ pounds sterling, rounded to the nearest £1000.

Do not use commas or enter pennies.

Use a minus symbol for losses.

Enter '0' if none.

D4.1. Total turnover

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4.2. Export Sales (if you do not export, please enter '0')

Note: Sales to/from the Channel Islands or Isle of Man count as exports.

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4.3. UK Sales

This will be automatically calculated using your turnover and export figures.

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4.4. Net Profit After Tax (Before Dividends)

Please enter your organisation's net profit after tax but before dividends for each financial year.

Use a **minus symbol** to record any losses.

Enter '0' if applicable.

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4.5. Total Net Assets

As per your balance sheet. Total assets (fixed and current), minus liabilities (current and long-term).

Round to the nearest pound.

Enter '0' if applicable.

Financial year 1:

Financial year 2:

Financial year 3:

Financial year 4:

Financial year 5 (most recent):

D4.6. Financial Changes

Have you experienced any dips in the following areas?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Total turnover
- ☐ Export sales
- ☐ Net profit
- ☐ Total net assets
- ☐ None of the above

D4.6.1. If yes, please explain.

Answer this question if you selected at least one of Total turnover, Export sales, Net profit or Total net assets in question D4.6.

If you didn't have any losses, drops in turnover, or reductions in net profit, please state so.

Word limit: 300

D4.7. Financial Viability

Explain how your business is financially viable.

You may include:

- Cash flow and cash generated
- External investment received
- Your strategy for managing development costs
- Expected outcomes and timelines

If your business is showing low or negative profitability, explain why and how it

remains sustainable.

Word limit: 200

D4.8. Business Investment Details

Eligibility Reminder

You must be able to prove that you have generated a minimum annual turnover of £250,000 with demonstrable growth, or secured external investment of £500,000 or more.

List all investments made into your business, including:

- Capital purchases
- Grants, loans, and external funding
- Workforce time and non-cash resources
- R&D spend or innovation-related support

Include the year(s) each investment was made.

If applicable, please attach proof of external investment.

Word limit: 250

D4.9. Investment Recovery

Explain how and when you have recovered — or expect to recover — the investments listed in D4.8.

Include any calculations or projections.

Word limit: 250

D4.10. Profitability

How do you make your business profitable now, or how will you do so in the future?

Please outline your approach. You might include:

- Cost management
- Revenue growth (e.g., new products, services, or markets)
- Pricing strategies
- Investment in technology or innovation

Word limit: 250

D5. Have you received any grant funding or government support?

Include support received in the last five years or at any time if it helped your business grow.

☐ Yes

☐ No

D5.1. If yes, please provide details:

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D5.

- Dates
- Source (e.g. Innovate UK, local council)
- Type of support (e.g. grant, loan, mentoring)
- Amount (if known)

Word limit: 250

D6. Are any of the financial figures you've provided estimates?

Estimates are only acceptable if your latest financial year hasn't ended or figures aren't finalised.

☐ Yes

☐ No

D6.1. Agreement to provide actual figures

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D6.

- ☐ I understand that if shortlisted, I must provide Board (or equivalent governing body) approved figures by the November deadline and that verification of financial figures may be requested at shortlisting stage, if requested by The King's Awards Office.

D6.2. If yes, explain your use of estimates:

Answer this question if you selected 'Yes' in question D6.

- Which figures are estimates?
- Are they based on actual receipts or confirmed orders?

Word limit: 200

D7. Additional comments:

Are there any additional comments you would like to include to provide context for your financial performance (e.g. investment-led growth, one-off contracts, margin improvements or significant scaling milestones)?

If you've already covered everything, just say so.

Word limit: 200

RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS PRACTICES (ESG):

About section E

This section is your chance to show how your business acts responsibly — for people, the planet, and your community. We understand that young businesses may be early in their journey, so just share what you've done so far and what you're working towards.

You don't need to repeat information already covered elsewhere in the form — just reference the relevant question if needed. Focus on your strongest examples and use figures or evidence where possible.

E1. Social Impact

How does your business make a positive difference to society or your local community?

You might include:

- Community projects, volunteering, or charitable work
- Apprenticeships or support for underrepresented groups
- How you measure and report your impact

Word limit: 200

E2. Environmental Impact

What steps are you taking to reduce your environmental footprint?

You might include:

- Energy-saving or recycling initiatives
- Sustainable packaging or product design
- Environmental policies or certifications (e.g. ISO)
- How you assess and improve your environmental impact

Word limit: 300

E3. Supporting Your Team

How do you support and engage your employees?

You might include:

- Flexible working, wellbeing support, or fair pay
- Diversity and inclusion efforts
- Training, mentoring, or career development

- Apprenticeships or work placements

Word limit: 300

E4. Working with Customers and Suppliers

How do you build ethical and responsible relationships with customers and suppliers?

You might include:

- Encouraging ethical practices in your supply chain
- Supporting UK-based suppliers
- How you measure customer satisfaction

Word limit: 200

E5. Do you have any other examples of responsible business practices you'd like to share? (optional)

If you've already covered everything, just say so.

Word limit: 200

SUPPORTING MATERIALS:

F1. Supporting materials

Financial statements:

To support your financial figures, please use this section to upload your financial statements for the years covered in the previous questions in section D.

- If you are a company, upload relevant accounts as submitted to the Companies House. In addition, upload the full accounts prepared by your company and your corporation tax returns as submitted to HMRC.
- If you are a Charity, upload relevant returns as submitted to the Charity Commission. If you are a sole trader or unincorporated partnership, upload relevant accounts and your tax returns as submitted to HMRC.

Other supporting materials:

You can upload up to 10 files or links to help support your application. These could include:

- Short videos, media coverage, or website links
- Visuals or documents that help tell your story

Please don't include:

- Business plans or company policies

Important:

- Make sure all essential information is already in the form — supporting materials should only add extra context.
- If you include a file or link, mention it by name in your answers so assessors know to look at it.
- Keep documents short and relevant. Don't upload folders or combine multiple items into one file.
- Each file must be under 5MB and in one of the following formats: doc, docx, pdf, ppt, pptx, xls, xlsx, jpg, png, txt, zip (and many others — full list available on request)

F2. Confirmation of entry.

- ☐ I confirm that all the information I've provided is correct to the best of my knowledge. I'll notify The King's Awards Office if anything changes.

F3. Staying in touch.

- ☐ I'm happy to be contacted about The King's Awards for Enterprise (e.g. newsletters, case studies, updates).

F3.1.

- ☐ I'm happy to be contacted by the Department for Business and Trade.

Submission deadline: 9 Sep 2026 at 1:00pm