



The Business  
of Fashion, Textiles  
and Technology

Creative Research and  
Development Partnership

# Fashion, Textiles, Technology R&D SME Support Programme

Funding Call Round 1

**ual:**



UK Research  
and Innovation





# Funding Call Round 1

## Information for Applicants

Are you running a successful business in the fashion, textiles and/or related technology sector and have an idea that you think could take your company and the industry sector to the next level? If so, we want to hear from you.

The call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the **Fashion, Textiles & Technology, SME Research and Development Programme** (FFTR&D) is now open.

The fashion, textiles and technology related sector (FTT) is buoyant, innovative and multidisciplinary, informing many adjacent sectors in the wider industry - quite literally from agriculture to advertising.

This Funding Call is looking to support SMEs\* in the development of the next generation of products, services and experiences in the fashion, textiles and technology sectors - with sustainability at their core.

SMEs with innovative concepts, or companies already working at the early stages of testing a prototype

product or service in the market place are eligible to apply.

Your ideas may be at an early stage, and to be successful may benefit from support across a range of specialist fields, including: new materials design; novel technologies; new applications for existing technologies; innovative business and retail models.

We look forward to hear from FTT companies who would like to achieve a step-change in their business trajectory.

## Who Should Consider Applying & Why:

### Who:

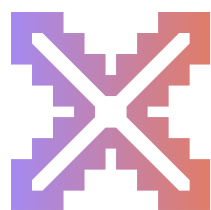
- UK-based SMEs trading for a minimum of 2 years as Fashion, Textiles business or related technology innovator.
- SMEs that wish to advance their market position via the development or prototype of new products, services or experiences.

### Why:

- To enable a step-change for your FTT business through the introduction of bespoke research and development (R&D) that you could not have undertaken on your own.

Register your interest by submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI)

\* The FFTR&D Programme uses the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) set out in the European Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003, which defines upper ceilings for SMEs consisting of: a headcount of no more than 250 employees; and/or company turnover under 50 million Euros (or equivalent in British Pounds).



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## Information for Applicants

### The Process & Timeline

1. Register your company's interest by completing an **Expression of Interest (EOI)** form here by 28-05-19, 12:00hs.

2. Up to **15 applications** may be shortlisted in Round 1, and notified by 03-06-19

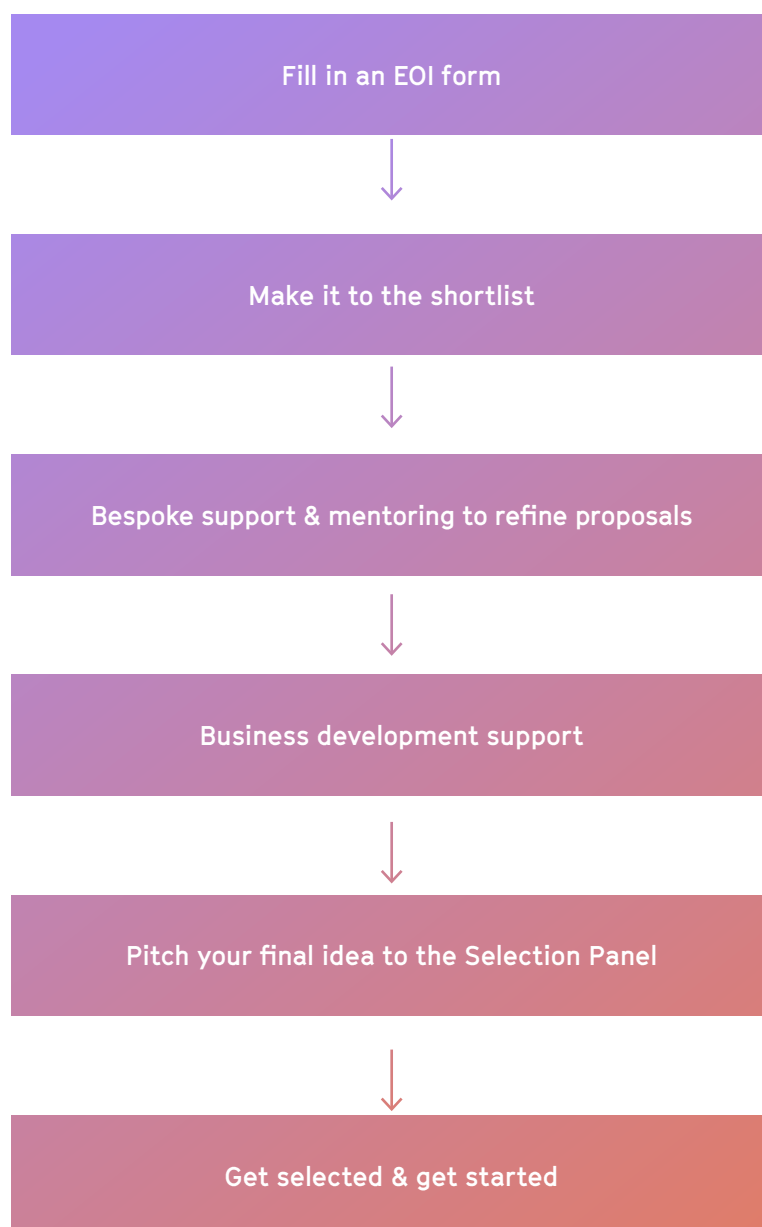
3. Those shortlisted will be provided with **bespoke support**, and mentoring during a three-month business development period (see below). (June-Sept 2019), to help you refine your ideas.

Note. those not shortlisted may also receive advice as appropriate, and be invited to workshops and events at a later date.

4. Pitch your final ideas and business proposal to a **High Profile & Multidisciplinary Selection Panel** – including Designers, Retailers, Technologists, Academics and Journalists (Oct 2019).

5. **Successful applicants** will be announced (Nov 2019).

6. **Projects launched** (Jan / Feb 2020).





# Funding Call Round 1 Information for Applicants

## The Offer:

The FTT R&D SME Support Programme is an ambitious research and development investment with a total value of approx £2m to establish approximately 15 FTT R&D SME Support Programme Partnerships. Each partnership will be considered for an approximate award value between £80,000 and £175,000k, for projects lasting up to 30 months – depending on the specific need of the project. *(N.B. grants will be made subject to compliance with all applicable state aid regulations).*

Florence Adepoju, LCF Cosmetic Science  
LCF Graduate Fashion Show



## What's included:

- Strategic partnering with Industry and Academic mentors + workshops and coaching
- A part time, fully qualified Project Lead to coordinate the delivery of the project
- Budget for materials, machinery expenses, as well as relevant subsistence and travel expenses
- Showcasing opportunities to test the results (retail, tradeshows, etc) as appropriate
- Access to University labs, equipment and studio space if required

## Expected Outputs:

- Fully tested prototypes of FTT products, services and experiences
- A commercialisation plan



# Funding Call Round 1 Information for Applicants

## Learn More About the FTT SME R&D Programme

### What is the Fashion Textiles & Technology, SME R&D Programme?

- The **FTT SME R&D Programme** is a targeted range of **funding, mentoring, support and wide ranging -technical, production, retail- expertise** specifically designed to help small and medium size businesses turn bright ideas into viable and sustainable commercial propositions.
- Each shortlisted applicant will be provided with bespoke business development support to help them refine their ideas and turn them into viable R&D proposals.
- Each applicant will then have the opportunity to pitch their proposal for an award of funding (approx. value between 80K to 250K depending on the complexity of the project), including the opportunity to be mentored by leading industry and academic partners throughout the duration of the programme.

Accessories by Una Burke  
Footwear by Sophia Webster  
Photography by David Brook



### What is the Programme looking to fund?

The programme is open to UK-based small and medium size companies (SMEs) with strong growth and innovation ambitions and a track record of at least two fully operational years.

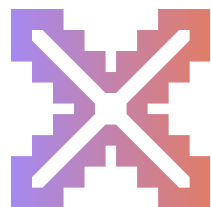
We are particularly interested to hear from companies keen to explore the development of new production & design processes, new products, services and experiences that may involve:

- Material Innovations
- Technology Innovations
- Retail innovations
- Sustainability-driven innovations

### What are the FTT SME R&D Programme key aims?

- The Programme offers a comprehensive range of coordinated activities that aim to:
- Foster a creative and supportive business research and development culture, which will enable fashion, textile and technology SMEs to thrive using bespoke R&D as a mechanism for innovation and growth.
- Advance the development of sustainable and technologically engaged FTT products, services and experiences.





# Funding Call Round 1 Information for Applicants

## Learn More About the FTT SME R&D Programme

### How does the Programme work?

Through a range of coordinated and targeted activities, the Programme helps businesses to:

- Develop viable and strategic R&D propositions.
- Connect with appropriate industry and academic experts.
- Prototype conceptual ideas and test innovations - benefitting from bespoke & expert mentoring through the implementation phase - from 12 to 30 months depending on the complexity of the project.



### What makes the Funding Call Unique?

- YOU - this Programme addresses the challenges and specialist requirements of FTT SMEs and aims to showcase the sector's potential.
- The Programme is informed by leading FTT industry and academic partners who are working collaboratively in order to make a real difference to FTT brands of the future.
- The Programme provides targeted funding, training and expertise across relevant areas including technology, product and service development and sustainable innovation.
- Awardees will emerge from the Programme ready to take their ideas to the next level, having developed, prototyped and tested their commercial potential.



# Fashion, Textiles, Technology R&D SME Support Programme

## From: The Business of Fashion Textiles and Technology Creative Research and Development Partnership

### Our Partners include:



Get in Touch: If you need more information before applying, please contact the FTT SME R&D team by writing to: [BFTTsme@arts.ac.uk](mailto:BFTTsme@arts.ac.uk) or filling this form [here](#).

