The Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards celebrate the partnerships between business, third sector, and public sector organisations and academia. Now in its 11th year, this flagship event recognises and rewards exceptional collaborations that deliver economic, environmental and social benefits for Scotland.

**Multiparty Collaboration Award 2026**

This award recognises consortia and groups collaborating on innovative knowledge exchange projects.

**Criteria:**

* Open to groups and consortia of three or more parties, including at least one academic partner from a Scottish university, college or research institute and at least one business partner
* Applications should demonstrate the innovation and impact achieved through collaboration, highlighting the unique partnership approach to addressing a common challenge and the significant benefit for each participating party
* To be considered eligible, collaborations must meet one of the following conditions within the period from **August 2023 to August 2025**:
  + **Active Engagement**: Demonstrated joint activity such as co-delivered project objectives, shared research or development work, or sustained partnership operations
  + **Impact and Outcomes**: Evidenced measurable outcomes or clear impacts resulting from collaborative efforts, including but not limited to innovation, economic, environmental or societal impact, or strategic advancement for the academic and/or business partner
* We encourage applications that involve multiple universities, colleges, or research institutes working together on a knowledge exchange project with other partners
* The judging panel’s decision is final. The panel reserves the right not to make an award in a specific category if the standard is deemed to be of insufficient quality
* Previous award winners are not eligible to apply to a category that they have won in the past
* If shortlisted, you will be required to complete a 60 second video overview of the project

**Please email your completed application to** [marketing@interface-online.org.uk](mailto:marketing@interface-online.org.uk) by **5pm** on **Thursday 11th December 2024**.

**Key Dates:**

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| --- | --- |
| Submission Deadline: | 5pm, Thursday, 11th December 2025 |
| Shortlist Announced: | Wednesday, 11th February 2026 |
| Awards Ceremony: | Thursday,19th March 2026  MacRobert Arts Centre, University of Stirling |

If you have any questions regarding the completion of the application form, please contact [**marketing@interface-online.org.uk**](mailto:marketing@interface-online.org.uk)

**Collaboration Partners**

**Lead applicant** (main point of contact that the Interface team will liaise with)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Organisation name** |  |
| **Email address** |  |
| **Contact number** |  |

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| **Name of collaboration / group / consortium** |  |
| **Name and email of the lead contact from all organisations involved in this partnership (this includes businesses, trade bodies, academic institutions etc.)** |  |
| **What date did the collaboration commence?** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Tick the check box to indicate which eligibility criteria this application meets.** To be considered eligible, collaborations must meet one of the following conditions within the period from **August 2023 to August 2025.** If applicable tick both. | |
| **Active Engagement**:  *Demonstrated ongoing joint activity such as co-delivered project objectives, shared research or development work, or sustained partnership operations.* |  |
| **Impact and Outcomes**:  *Evidenced measurable outcomes or clear impacts resulting from collaborative efforts, including but not limited to innovation, economic, environmental or societal impact, or strategic advancement for the academic and/or business partner.* |  |

**Application Form**

**To ensure that applications can be considered on equal terms, please ensure that you follow the word limits specified below. Exceeding the word count may lead to your application being discounted by the judging panel.**

However, if you would like to add any assets in support of your application (such as images, diagrams or video links), please include these as an appendix.

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| **Section 1 - Describe the features of the multiparty collaboration.** *When was the collaboration initiated,* what activity (if any) has taken place in the last 2 years (Aug 23 - Aug 25), *who are the partners within the collaboration, for what purpose was it facilitated? Is there a novel make up to the partnership e.g. creativity in expertise or region for example. (400 words)* |
|  |
| **Section 2 - How has the partnership supported the organisations growth and / or commercial success?** *Outline tangible and intangible benefits (i) achieved to date (ii) predicated for the future e.g., economic, social, environmental, expansion into new markets.* |
| Benefits achieved to date with timelines (200 words) |
| Future benefits predicted (200 words) |
| **Section 3 - Outline the impact to the academic partner(s) of the collaboration achieved** *e.g. impacts on teaching, learning, research, income, public engagement. Include details of the academic department(s) associated with the partnership and their level of support; have you received public funding?* |
| Benefits achieved to date with timelines (200 words) |
| Future benefits predicted (200 words) |
| **Section 4 - Outline the top three impacts from collaborating as a group as opposed to individually**. *Outline examples of shared resource, knowledge, expertise, timings etc. Please be concise with your answers.* |
|  |
| **Section 5 - What next?** *Outline the key milestones for next phase of the collaboration. Will the collaboration lead onto further research with the same or further partners? (200 words)* |
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**Pre and Post Award Promotion:**

The Interface Marketing and Communications team will endeavour to raise the profile of your organisation, the Scottish Knowledge Exchange Awards and the Interface service through pre and post Award promotion. By submitting this application / nomination form, you are agreeing for the details to be used in any related press and marketing materials. We recommend, therefore, that there should be no IP or confidentiality issues which would restrict publishing details of your application.

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| **To assist with the application promotion which will be used for the shortlist announcements, please provide a brief summary of your collaborative project below** *(Maximum 60 words)*  For examples see the 2025 project summaries [here.](https://interface-online.org.uk/news/scottish-knowledge-exchange-award-winners-showcase-collaboration-at-its-finest/) |
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**Data Protection:**

By completing this application / nomination form, you accept and consent to the use of your data by Interface and any individuals, i.e. judges, those involved with the delivery, audit, review and evaluation of this application / nomination form. It is the lead applicant’s role to ensure that all parties, whose details are included in this application form, are aware of and agree to this submission.

Interface’s full privacy statement can be read [here](https://interface-online.org.uk/privacy-and-cookies).

**Please email your completed entry forms to:**

[**marketing@interface-online.org.uk**](mailto:marketing@interface-online.org.uk)

**by 5pm on Thursday 11th December 2025**