

[News story: Leading the world in battery technology: apply for funding](#)

New funding opportunities worth up to £85 million have been unveiled by Business Secretary, Greg Clark under the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund's Faraday Challenge. These aim to make the UK a world leader in low carbon vehicle technology.

They include funding to:

- support the UK's position as a leader in the design, development and manufacture of future batteries for vehicle electrification
- set up a new facility to work on new technologies to propel the development of low carbon vehicles, through the [Advanced Propulsion Centre](#) (APC)

In addition to the Faraday Challenge opportunities, up to £25 million has been allocated for connected and autonomous vehicles.

A challenge to support the low carbon economy

The Faraday Challenge is one of a series of challenges set by the UK government as part of its Industrial Strategy. It will see £246 million invested in battery technologies over the next 4 years.

A total of £1 billion will be invested across all of the challenge areas.

Faraday Challenge competitions

Battery innovation for the electrification of vehicles

- the [Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy](#) (BEIS) and Innovate UK have up to £30 million available for collaborative research and development projects for new battery technologies, and up to a further £10 million for feasibility studies
- the competitions open on 25 July 2017, and the deadline for applications is at midday on 14 September 2017
- we expect collaborative research and development projects to range in size from £1 million to £15 million and last up to 3 years
- we expect feasibility studies to range in size from £150,000 to £1 million and last between 3 and 12 months
- businesses could attract up to 70% of their project costs

National battery manufacturing development facility

- the APC has up to £45 million to support one project to develop a virtual centre for battery research to make technology more accessible and affordable for business
- the competition opens on 25 July, and the registration deadline is

midday on 13 September 2017

- work must be carried out in the UK
- project build is expected to last a maximum of 24 months, with the construction complete and the facility operational by early 2020
- you may be eligible for up to 100% of your project costs if you or the delivery organisation is a non-profit research organisation

Research into batteries

Separate to these competitions, the Faraday Challenge will support activities across research, innovation and scale up. This includes a call by the [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council](#) (EPSRC) to establish a virtual research institute, plus associated research into battery development.

Autonomous vehicles competitions

The Business Secretary also announced 2 competitions to encourage projects that show how connected and autonomous vehicles can work in the real world. These will be funded by the [Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles](#) (CCAV).

New connected and autonomous vehicle technologies

- up to £23 million is being made available for collaborative research and development projects, and up to a further £2 million for feasibility studies
- the competitions open on 25 July 2017, and the deadline for applications is midday on 25 October 2017
- we expect collaborative research and development projects to range in size from £500,000 to £4 million and last between 18 and 30 months
- we expect feasibility studies to range in size up to £250,000 and last between 12 and 18 months
- businesses could attract up to 70% of their project costs