



University
of Exeter



Exeter
INNOVATION



The University of Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards

Sponsorship Proposal

Celebrating excellence
in knowledge exchange, partnership and innovation

Thursday 15 October 2026



ABOUT

The University of Exeter

The University of Exeter combines world-class research with excellent student satisfaction, from our campuses in the South West of England, in Exeter and Cornwall. We are one of the very few universities to be both a member of [the Russell Group](#) and have a Gold award from the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF), evidence of our established international reputation for excellence in both teaching and research. Our success is built on a strong partnership with our students and a clear focus on high performance. Each year, the University of Exeter delivers over 1500 projects with industry and generates over £52m from this work. We believe impact is about making a difference, and our world-class researchers have an excellent track record in making valuable contributions to our society, economy and the environment.

The Knowledge Exchange Awards

After the resounding success of our 2022 and 2024 Knowledge Exchange Awards, we are thrilled to announce that the event is coming back in 2026. These prestigious awards celebrate the incredible knowledge exchange activity taking place between University of Exeter academics and our valued collaborators. Focusing on the best of our recent innovations and discoveries, the event recognises success in a range of regional, national and international companies.

The awards gala dinner will be held on Thursday 15 October 2026. It will be attended by our partner organisations, ranging from regional start-up companies to major international businesses, in addition to senior staff and members of our academic community. The event offers an excellent opportunity to learn about the research being conducted at the University and network with our diverse stakeholder and academic communities.

The awards are judged by experts in their field. In 2026 we will recognise success in 7 categories (detailed page 3). This year we are encouraging entries which focus on novel and innovative research which have exciting potential for the future, and established projects.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Main Sponsor

Our main sponsors will receive:

- » Sponsorship of all elements of the event - apart from a small number of individual sponsored awards.
- » Exposure across all digital, print and verbal promotional channels.
- » Prominent listing and company branding on the event landing page for the Awards, with link to own website.
- » Mention in all pre-event press releases as lead partner.
- » Exhibition banners /pop-up displays on the night itself.
- » Option to address the audience from the main stage; either as a speaker or as someone delivering awards.
- » Opportunity to deliver a bespoke award.
- » Opportunity to take part in a pre-event interview and photography as part of the publicity for the event.
- » Up to 5 places to attend the event.

The cost of this package is £10,000.



Category Sponsor

We are giving awards in 8 different categories, each of which focuses on a particular area of research impact. Organisations are invited to sponsor one of the following:

No. 1

Sustainable Futures Award

Recognising excellence in sustainability, environment and life sciences. Potential innovations can include products, policies, services and community partnerships.

No. 2

Health, Wellbeing and Life Sciences Award

Recognising innovations that lead us to better mental and physical wellbeing. Potential innovations can include products, policies, services and community partnerships.

No. 3

Fair, Just and Inclusive Society Award

Recognising innovations towards a more equitable, just and inclusive society. Potential innovations can include products, policies, services, community partnerships, and use of facilities.

No. 4

Commercialisation Project of the Year Award

Recognising significant impacts through licensing and/or venture development. This category includes spinouts, patents, and the practical application of research.

No. 5

Community Impact Award

Recognising a research or knowledge exchange project which worked with a community or non-profit partner and made a positive difference to people's lives.

No. 6

Bright Future Award 1: Student Innovation Award

Recognising excellent projects and activities in a real-world context. This category is open to current students and recent graduates (the activities must have been carried-out whilst a student at the University).

No. 7

Bright Future Award 2: Early Career Research Impact Award

Recognising excellent research and knowledge exchange in a real-world context. This category is open to staff with less than three years' experience at the University (the activities must have been carried-out whilst employed at the University).

No. 8

Knowledge Exchange Solution of the Year Award

Recognising excellence in Knowledge Exchange activities that turn new research and innovative ways of working into impactful solutions for real-world challenges. This category is open to academics and Professional Services teams who create significant benefits for partners, communities and industry.

Our category sponsors will receive:

- » Two tickets to attend Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards gala dinner.
- » Branding of the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards to include:
 - One pop-up banner or similar material in the event foyer.
 - Company logo alongside the category in the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards programme.
 - Company logo alongside the category on the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards website.
 - Mention in all digital promotions of the category before and after the event.

The Cost of this package is £3,000.

Please note categories are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to approval by the University Executive Board.



Reception Drinks Sponsor

On arrival, guests will be offered prosecco as well as selected soft drinks.

Our reception drinks sponsors will receive:

- » One ticket to attend the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards gala dinner.
- » One pop-up banner or similar material in the event foyer.
- » Company logo in the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards programme.
- » Company logo on the Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards website.

The cost of this package is £2,000.



CONTACT

We very much hope that you will be interested in this opportunity and look forward to hearing from you. The Exeter Knowledge Exchange Awards are an excellent way to demonstrate support for education and to gain access to the University's research community.

If you wish to discuss any of these options further, or would like to find out more information, please contact:

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