

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Overarching Criteria for all Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Each proposal for a Knowledge Transfer Partnership will be assessed against all of the following criteria, no matter which of the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Sponsors will support that Project.

- Every proposal that is approved as a Knowledge Transfer Partnership must be fully in accord with the agreed Mission and Objectives for Knowledge Transfer Partnerships.
- The projects must provide the Associate(s) with an intellectually challenging learning experience appropriate to his/her background and aspirations.
- There must be a clear and appropriate training plan for the Associate(s).
- There must be an appropriate level of support available to the Associate(s).
- The potential outcomes/benefits for all partners and the Associates will not, or are most unlikely to, occur to the same extent without a Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Project (i.e. there is additionality).
- The Company Partner must be regarded as being financially viable following consideration of their latest Report and Accounts, or other financial information where appropriate, including subjecting the accounts to a set of prescribed tests.
- The proposed Project will be relevant to the strategic plans and objectives of the Company Partner.
- There must be a clear need for knowledge/skills/technology input from the 'knowledge base'¹ to the projects that make up the proposed Partnership.
- The Company Partner must be capable of making significant use of the knowledge/skills/technology to be transferred.
- The Company Partner will have indicated that the proposed Project is likely to result in the spread of best practice (e.g. within that firm or to suppliers or to customers).
- The proposed involvement of the Knowledge Base Partner will provide the appropriate expertise, having regard to the knowledge, skills and technology/technologies to be transferred during the course of the Project.
- There must be evidence of commitment to the proposed project by both the Knowledge Base and Company Partners, and this should be reflected in the proposed membership of the Local Management Committee.
- There must be clear benefits to the Knowledge Base Partner, including target outcomes.
- The stated potential benefits for the Knowledge Base and Company Partners are likely to accrue.

¹ The 'knowledge base' is defined as Higher and Further Education Institutions (the latter teaching at NVQ Level 4 and above in the appropriate subject), Research and Technology Organisations and Public and Private Research Institutes.