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NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Co-Innovate wins prestigious business award for best incubator/accelerator/co-working space**

London 6 March 2023

Brunel University London’s Co-Innovate team today announced that it has scooped first prize at the West London Business Awards 2023[[1]](#footnote-1). The prestigious business awards showcase business excellence in West London, clustered around six themes: ‘SME Sector leadership’, ‘Sustainable & responsible business’, ‘Economic resilience’, ‘Corporate leadership’, ‘Individual leadership’ and Next Generation, celebrating West London's Young Entrepreneurs.

As winners of the Economic resilience catetory, Brunel Co-Innovate was victorious as the best incubator/accelerator/co-working space.

Co-Innovate, the flagship business support programme by Brunel University London, has been supporting London SMEs and Entrepreneurs to build their businesses and innovative ideas since 2012.

Funded by the European Regional Development Fund and the GLA, the programme makes SME incubation possible through business mentoring from experts and innovative collaborations with Brunel academics and students. In addition, the immense research opportunities by collaborating with Brunel's three colleges and five research institutes acts as a fuel for SMEs to run that extra mile.

Judges noted that Brunel Co-Innovate successfully nurtures disruptive ideas and specialises in accelarators, which rapidly scale up the growth in existing businesses. Brunel Co-Innovate coworking spaces were commended for being easy to use, in a good location with an expert team that is focussed on delivering the best service.

Rhona Denness (pictured third from right) Co-Innovate Operations Manager commented “To be formally recognised for our unique offering is a reward for our clear commitment to innovation. We are proud of this award and equally proud of the businesses that we support. We postiviely encourage London-based SMEs to come and see for themselves how Co-Innovate can benefit them.”

**ENDS**

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**About Co-Innovate**

Jointly funded by Brunel University London, the GLA and the European Regional Development Fund, Co-Innovate provides support to London-based small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups for new product, service and process innovation. Connecting businesses to the academic expertise, innovation specialists and knowledge resources found within Brunel University London. This is supplied through two programmes; Co-Innovate Journeys & BRIDGING the GAP.

Co-Innovate Journeys provides support to London-based SMEs with academic expertise and research practices at Brunel University London. The project provides the tools and support necessary to help your business innovate, differentiate and compete successfully in the market through collaborative projects with academics and students.

BRIDGING the GAP supports early stage London SME’s to grow and reach their business goals, Our goal is to connect businesses with specialist expertise, mentors and the academic resources of Brunel University London.

1. https://awards.westlondon.com [↑](#footnote-ref-1)