

THE AWARDS 2020

Knowledge Exchange/Transfer Initiative of the Year

Institution name	University of West London
Submission title or project name	West London Food Innovation Lab
Nominee/key personnel	Adrian Ellison; Professor Anthony Woodman; Matt Snowden
URL	
Submission	<p>The West London Food Innovation Lab (WLFIL) is project, co-funded by UWL and the European Regional Development Fund, that helps the food and drink industry navigate a highly competitive market. It offers start-ups and SMEs free access to expert advice, technical support, and culinary and product development.</p> <p>Aligned to the expertise and contacts of the University, WLFIL brings together three elements of culinary development: food preparation; extensive scientific laboratory services such as nutritional and texture analysis; and sensory evaluation and profiling (tasting).</p> <p>These specialist facilities would normally be outside of the reach of such small and emerging businesses. To date the project has supported nearly 80 businesses, developed 29 new-to-market products ranging from vegetarian and vegan foods, artisan breads, alternative protein products, to healthy street food desserts. It brings new levels of innovation, co-operation and partnership to support academics, businesses and the community in one virtuous circle.</p>