



## Job Description

<b>Position / Job Title:</b>	<b>AI Engineer (KTP Associate, Fixed-Term) (RED ID 14710)</b>
<b>Ref:</b>	<b>584</b>
<b>Location/Building:</b>	<b>Cold Banana Ltd. Banana House, 129-131 Poole Road Bournemouth, BH4 9BG</b>
<b>Faculty/Professional Service:</b>	<b>Faculty of Media, Science and Technology</b>
<b>Group/Section:</b>	<b>School of Computing &amp; Engineering,</b>
<b>Duration if Temporary:</b>	<b>Fixed-Term for 30 months</b>
<b>Normal Hours per Week:</b>	<b>37.5 hours</b> <b>(Some flexibility will be required in order to ensure that key time scales and deadlines are met).</b>
<b>Accountable to:</b>	<b>Professor of Machine Learning and AI</b>

### Job Purpose

We are seeking an AI engineer to join our KTP project between Cold Banana, a leading tech agency based in Bournemouth, and Bournemouth University (BU). This project aims to develop advanced AI-powered product and sales solutions for the construction industry to enhance Cold Banana's offering in this sector.

Key challenges include solving bottlenecks in the building materials supply chain and facilitate meeting ambitious Government objectives by developing smart product knowledge system that streamlines access and interactions with complex construction industry datasets.

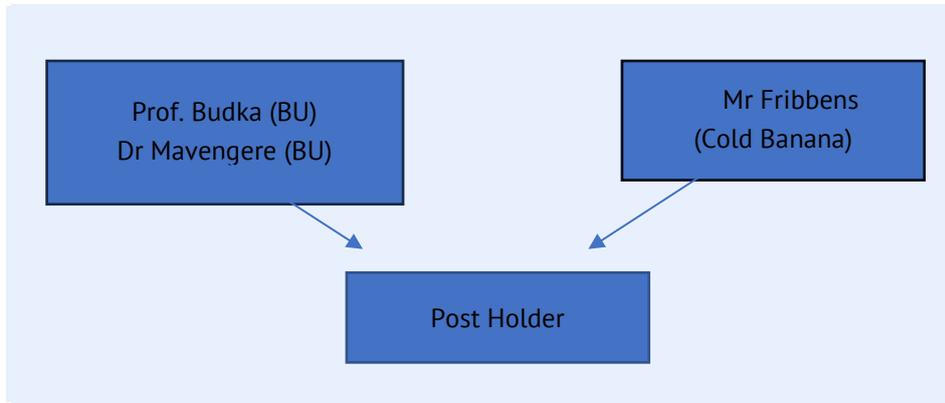
This is an exciting opportunity to join a talented team in a challenging commercial environment to innovate and build digital products that make a difference to people every day. The post-holder will be supported by senior academics at Bournemouth University and will have direct access to the senior leadership team at the business, including their CEO. The post-holder will also have opportunities for career advancement, with 10% of their time and a dedicated budget allocated to personal development.

### Main Responsibilities

1. Deliver objectives of proposed work within the timeframes of the project and ensuring the achievement of project outcomes.
2. Write up research work for publication, to include research outputs and reports.
3. Work with other project staff to develop the supporting documentation.
4. Present findings at conferences and other dissemination and knowledge exchange activities, both internal and external.
5. In conjunction with the principal investigators (project leads at Bournemouth University) liaise with external stakeholders to scope their needs and identify obstacles to deployment.
6. Lead team meetings as appropriate and provide support and guidance to other staff as appropriate.

7. Monitor travel and development budgets and produce a Personal Development Plan which will ensure best use of financial resources.
8. Undertake personal and professional development activities in line with agreed development programme to enhance personal knowledge and contribution to relevant activities.
9. Bring in new skills and the latest academic thinking to deliver a specific and strategic innovation research project through a knowledge-based partnership.

### **Organisation Chart**



### **Dimensions**

Funder: Innovate UK  
 Partner: Cold Banana  
 Value: ~£268,000  
 Outputs: as defined in the workplan

### **Contacts**

#### **Internal:**

Prof. Marcin Budka (Knowledge Base Supervisor), Dr Nicholas Mavengere (Knowledge Base Supervisor), Prof. Nan Jiang (Knowledge Base Lead)

#### **External:**

Luke Fribbens (Company Supervisor)

### **Challenges**

In this role, you will be tasked with solving a series of challenges at the intersection of AI, data, and product development. We are looking for a candidate who is driven by these opportunities:

- Architecting a high-performance, user-centric AI platform: The core challenge is to design and build a specialised knowledge platform that delivers technical performance without sacrificing practical usability and intuitive design.
- Taming large-scale, dynamic data: You will be responsible for solving the complexities of managing vast and constantly evolving product datasets by engineering secure, highly scalable data ingestion and processing pipelines.
- Advanced information retrieval: This involves moving beyond standard search to build a knowledge retrieval system using state-of-the-art techniques like Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), agentic workflows, and efficient LLM fine-tuning to provide instant, accurate answers.
- Integrating AI into real-world workflows: A key challenge is ensuring that the AI-driven recommendations and insights integrate seamlessly and logically into existing customer workflows, while building a flexible architecture that can scale into new industries.

### **Information Governance Responsibilities**

### Data User

- i. Comply with the associated data protection, information security, information management and information technology regulations, policies, processes and procedures.

### **Safeguarding and Regulated Activity**

If the role involves engaging in regulated activity relevant to vulnerable groups including children and disabled adults, it is an [offence to apply for](#) and perform the role, if a person is barred from engaging in regulated activity. Further information is available in BU's [Safeguarding Policy](#) and Suitability Statement on the Recruitment and Employment of Ex-offenders.

### **Additional Information**

NB:

The purpose of the job description is to indicate the general level of responsibility and location of the position. The duties may vary from time to time without changing their general character or level of responsibility.

BU is an equal opportunities employer which values a diverse workforce. The post holder must at all times carry out their responsibilities with due regard to the University's Dignity, Diversity and Equality Policy Statement.

Our highly skilled and creative workforce is comprised of individuals drawn from a broad cross section of the globe, and who reflect a variety of backgrounds, talents, perspectives and experiences to build our global learning community. Through fused activity, the post holder must have an understanding of and commitment to promoting a global outlook.

All employees have an obligation to be aware of the University's Sustainability Policy, Climate and Ecological Crisis Action Plan, Travel Plan and associated documents, and to ensure that they carry out their day-to-day activities in an environmentally responsible manner and inspire students to do the same.

**March 2026**



## Person Specification

Position / Job Title: AI Engineer (KTP Associate, Fixed-Term) (RED ID 14710)	
Position No: TBC	
Faculty / Service: Faculty of Media, Science and Technology	Date: March 2026
<b>SELECTION CRITERIA</b>	<b>Essential / Desirable</b>
<b>Knowledge (including experience &amp; qualifications)</b>	
Experience of designing and evaluating machine learning systems either work-based or via a research degree	E
PhD (or near completion) in relevant discipline	E
Knowledge in computer science, cloud computing or software engineering	E
Experience of using deep learning frameworks such as PyTorch or TensorFlow	E
Experience with NLP and GNNs	D
Experience of publishing research outputs	E
Experience of presenting research within and beyond academia	D
Experience in collaboration with researchers from other disciplines	D
Familiar with current developments in research and scholarship with ability to identify appropriate research options, methods and theoretical perspectives	E
<b>Skills</b>	
Ability to apply machine learning methodologies	E
Excellent communication skills, both orally and in writing, and the ability to communicate research findings to different audiences.	E
Strong organisational skills	E
Strong writing abilities	E
Effective team working skills	E
Ability to reason accurately and quickly and handle complex situations.	E
<b>Attributes</b>	
Analytical	E
Collegiate	E
Commitment to high quality research	E
Initiative	E
High level of attention to detail	E
Motivated to succeed	E