



[REDACTED]

28 August 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2026/00571**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 7 July in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*For Innovate UK's Future Leaders Fellowship Round 10 for both the academic and business/non-academic strands, please could you release the following information:*

1. *The number of applications.*
2. *The number of assessed applications.*
3. *The number of successful applications.*
4. *The number of applications that were invited to interview.*
5. *The success rate.*
6. *The minimum successful score.*
7. *The maximum successful score.*
8. *Minimum score of applications that were invited to interview.*
9. *Maximum score of applications that were invited to interview.*
10. *Maximum score of failed applications.*
11. *Average grant value per project for both successful and unsuccessful projects.*
12. *Average score of funded projects.*
13. *The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.*
14. *The average project duration.*
15. *The funding split between the two strands (academic vs business/non-academic).*

**Our response**

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) does hold information relevant to your request. Please see the information below this response in **FOI2026/00571 Annex 1**.

We have numbered your questions for ease of reference.

Please note: The information contained in this response is correct as the date of sending. At this time all applicants who applied to the Future Leaders Fellowships: Round 10, business and non-academic and Future Leaders Fellowships: Round 10 opportunities have been notified of their outcome. Those who were successful have all confirmed to accept or decline the award offer. Currently UKRI are completing final checks on those who have accepted their award offer, therefore the results contained in this document are to be considered tentative pending the completion of UKRI checks and the final outcomes may differ.

**Your rights**

If you have any queries regarding our response please do let us know. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, explaining which elements of this decision you

disagree with and why. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of our response and should be addressed to:

Head of Information Governance

Email: [foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org)

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see [UKRI's complaints procedure](#).<sup>1</sup>

Yours sincerely,

Information Governance

Information Rights Team

UK Research and Innovation

[foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) | [dataprotection@ukri.org](mailto:dataprotection@ukri.org)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>

**FOI2026/00571 Annex 1**

| UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship Round 10*                                                          |                            |                  |                  | See annex |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Question                                                                                          | Academia                   | Business         | All applications |           |
| 1. The number of applications.                                                                    | 412                        | 384              | 796              | Table 1   |
| 2. The number of assessed applications.                                                           | 403                        | 356              | 787              | Table 1   |
| 3. The number of successful applications.                                                         | 47                         | 29               | 76               | Table 1   |
| 5. The success rate.                                                                              | 11.7%                      | 7.6%             | 9.7%             | Table 1   |
| 4. The number of applications that were invited to interview.                                     | 98                         | 73               | 171              | Table 2   |
| 11. Average grant value per project for both successful and unsuccessful projects.                | Successful:                | Successful:      | Successful:      | Table 3   |
|                                                                                                   | £1,611,959.81              | £1,441,524.06    | £1,546,925.12    | Table 3   |
|                                                                                                   | Rejected:                  | Rejected:        | Rejected:        |           |
|                                                                                                   | £1,542,796.85              | £994,425.43      | £1,268,996.77    |           |
| 15. The funding split between the two strands (academic vs business/non-academic)                 | £75,762,111.20             | £41,804,197.75   | £117,566,308.95  | Table 4   |
| 8. Minimum score of applications that were invited to interview.                                  | A (at sift)                | A (at sift)      | A (at sift)      | Table 5   |
| 9. Maximum score of applications that were invited to interview.                                  | A (at sift)                | A (at sift)      | A (at sift)      | Table 5   |
| 6. The minimum successful score.                                                                  | A (at sift)                | A (at sift)      | A (at sift)      | Table 6   |
|                                                                                                   | A (at interview)           | A (at interview) | A (at interview) |           |
| 7. The maximum successful score.                                                                  | A (at sift)                | A (at sift)      | A (at sift)      | Table 6   |
|                                                                                                   | A (at interview)           | A (at interview) | A (at interview) |           |
| 10. Maximum score of failed applications.                                                         | B (at sift)                | B (at sift)      | B (at sift)      | Table 6** |
|                                                                                                   | B (at interview)           | A (at interview) | A (at interview) |           |
| 12. Average score of funded projects.                                                             | A                          | A                | A                | Table 6   |
| 13. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score. | 0                          | 1                | 1                | Table 6** |
| 14. The average project duration.                                                                 | Please see response below. |                  |                  |           |

\* The information in this document is correct as of August 2026. All applicants to the Future Leaders Fellowships Round 10 schemes have been notified of their outcome, and successful applicants have accepted or declined their award offer. UKRI is currently completing final checks for accepted awards, so the results remain provisional and may change.

\*\* The applicant banded A, was successful in the process but chose to decline the award offer. For administrative reasons this is recorded as a rejection.

### Questions 1, 2, 3 and 5

**Table 1: The number of applications, the number of assessed applications, the number of successful applications and the success rate.**

| <b>UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship - Round 10 applications received and outcomes</b> | <b>Applications received</b> | <b>RO Withdrawn</b> | <b>Failed eligibility checks</b> | <b>Assessed</b> | <b>Rejected</b> | <b>Successful</b> | <b>Success rate</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Academic                                                                            | 412                          | 9                   | 0                                | 403             | 356             | 47                | 11.7%               |
| Business                                                                            | 384                          | 0                   | 28                               | 356             | 355             | 29                | 7.6%                |
| <b>All applications</b>                                                             | <b>796</b>                   | <b>9</b>            | <b>28</b>                        | <b>759</b>      | <b>711</b>      | <b>76</b>         | <b>9.7%</b>         |

Please note: Success rates at UKRI exclude applications which were withdrawn. The calculation is made using the number of successful applicants divided by the total number of applications assessed.

### Question 4

**Table 2: The number of applications that were invited to interview.**

| <b>UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship - Round 10 applicants invited to interview</b> |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Academic                                                                         | 98         |
| Business                                                                         | 73         |
| <b>All applications</b>                                                          | <b>171</b> |

### Question 11

Table 3: Average grant value per project for both successful and unsuccessful projects.

| UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship - Round 10 average funding requested | Rejected      | Successful    | All applications |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|
| Academic                                                            | £1,542,796.85 | £1,611,959.81 | £1,550,863.00    |
| Business                                                            | £994,425.43   | £1,441,524.06 | £1,028,190.69    |
| All applications                                                    | £1,268,996.77 | £1,546,925.12 | £1,295,836.10    |

### Question 15

Table 4: The funding split between the two strands (academic vs business/non-academic)

| UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship - Round 10 funding offered to successful applicants | Academic       | Business       | All applications |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
|                                                                                    | £75,762,111.20 | £41,804,197.75 | £117,566,308.95  |

Please note with regards to tables 3 and 4: Funding requested is taken directly from the application. At this time, pending UKRI checks, the full funding amounts for all successful applications have not yet been finalised. In addition, successful academic-based applications will receive indexation which is not reflected in the data until the completion of all checks.

### Question 8 and 9

Table 5: Round 10 SIFT outcome minimum and maximum scores

| UKRI Future leaders fellowship - Round 10 SIFT outcomes and banding | Invited to interview |          | Rejected |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                                                     | Academic             | Business | Academic | Business |
| A                                                                   | 98                   | 73       | 0        | 0        |
| B                                                                   | 0                    | 0        | 60       | 63       |
| C                                                                   | 0                    | 0        | 70       | 55       |
| D                                                                   | 0                    | 0        | 175      | 193      |
| Grand Total                                                         | 98                   | 73       | 305      | 311      |

### Question 6, 7, 10, 12 and 13

**Table 6: Round 10 Interview minimum and maximum scores**

| UKRI Future leaders fellowship - Round 10 interview outcomes and banding | Successful |           | Rejected  |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|                                                                          | Academic   | Business  | Academic  | Business** |
| A                                                                        | 47         | 29        | 0         | 1          |
| B                                                                        | 0          | 0         | 21        | 17         |
| C                                                                        | 0          | 0         | 25        | 16         |
| D                                                                        | 0          | 0         | 5         | 9          |
| Deferred                                                                 | 0          | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| <b>All applications</b>                                                  | <b>47</b>  | <b>29</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>44</b>  |

At both the sift and interview, applications are grouped into bands determined by the panels following assessment of all applications. Therefore, the average score represents the modal band agreed by the panel.

\*\* The applicant banded A, was successful in the process but chose to decline the award offer. For administrative reasons this is recorded as a rejection.

**Table 7: Criteria for each band at the sift stage.**

| Score | Possible action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A     | These candidates are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and show evidence of the highest standards and obvious added value from a FLF award. They are a priority to invite to interview.                                                                           |
| B     | These candidates are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and are of a high standard. They show good evidence of added value from a FLF award though other funding sources may also be appropriate. They should be considered for interview but are not prioritised. |
| C     | These candidates adequately address all of the assessment criteria but are not of the highest quality across the criteria. They are the lowest priority to consider for interview.                                                                                                      |
| D     | These candidates failed to adequately address one or more of the assessment criteria and are not recommended for interview.                                                                                                                                                             |

**Table 8: Criteria used at interview is as follows:**

| Score | Possible action                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A     | These Candidates are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and show evidence of the highest standards and obvious added value from a FLF award. They are a priority for investment.                                  |
| B     | These Candidates are judged to have addressed all of the assessment criteria and are of a high standard, they show good evidence of added value from a FLF award.<br>They should be considered for investment but are not prioritised. |
| C     | These Candidates adequately address all of the assessment criteria but are not of the highest quality across the criteria. They are the lowest priority to consider for investment.                                                    |
| D     | These Candidates failed to adequately address one or more of the assessment criteria and are not recommended for investment.                                                                                                           |

**Question 14: The average project duration**

Future Leaders Fellowships (FLFs) are initially awarded for up to four years. Fellows may then choose to apply for a further three years of funding through the FLF Renewal process.

Fellowships can be held on either a full-time or part-time basis. For part-time awards, the fellowship duration is adjusted on a pro rata basis. For example, a fellow working at 50% FTE would have a fellowship duration of up to eight years for the initial four-year award period. If successful in securing Renewal funding, the total fellowship duration would be extended proportionately.