



[REDACTED]

29 April 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2021/00210**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 19 April in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*Please could you provide the following information with regard to the Innovate UK Smart Grants: November 2020 Competition:*

1. *Total number of applications*
2. *Number of assessed applications (not disregarded due to being deemed out of scope etc)*
3. *Number of applications funded*
4. *Number of applications funded per 'innovation area'*
5. *Average funding amount per project*
6. *Smallest and largest amount of funding per project*
7. *Average score*
8. *Success threshold*
9. *Number of re-submissions and number that were successful in the Nov 2020 round.*

**Our response:**

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

Please note that:

**Stream 1:** Projects 18 months or less in duration, with total project cost of £500k or less

**Stream 2:** Projects either over 18 months in duration and/or £500k project costs

1. *Total number of applications*

There were 1,501 applications received for the Smart Grants: November 2020 competition, of which 202 were ineligible.

2. *Number of assessed applications (not disregarded due to being deemed out of scope etc)*

Stream	Number of Assessed Applications
Stream 1	1149
Stream 2	150
Total	1299

3. Number of applications funded

Stream	Number of Applications Funded
Stream 1	61
Stream 2	12
Total	73

4. Number of applications funded per 'innovation area'

**Stream 1**

Innovation Area	Number of Funded Applications
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	2
Agricultural productivity	2
Bioscience	2
Chemical / bio processes	1
Composite materials	1
Creative industries	2
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	3
Digital health	1
Digital industries	8
Digital manufacturing	3
Digital technology	11
Electronic materials and manufacturing	3
Electronics, sensors and photonics	2
Energy - other	3
Energy efficiency	1
Energy systems	1
Enhancing food quality	2
Independent living and wellbeing	1
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	1
Metals / metallurgy	1
Not Specified	1
Offshore wind	2
Robotics and autonomous systems	1
Smart infrastructure	2
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	1
Sustainable materials	2
Rail transport	1

**Stream 2**

Innovation Area	Number of Funded Applications
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1
Agricultural productivity	3
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	2
Digital health	1
Digital industries	1

Energy - other	1
Resource efficiency	1
Robotics and autonomous systems	1

5. *Average funding amount per project*

Stream	Average Funding per Project
Stream 1	£252,836
Stream 2	£855,306

6. *Smallest and largest amount of funding per project*

Stream	Smallest Funding Amount	Largest Funding Amount
Stream 1	£42,885	£394,297
Stream 2	£527,235	£1,391,322

7. *Average score*

Stream	Average score of funded projects
Stream 1	84.96%
Stream 2	85.47%

8. *Success threshold*

Stream	Lowest scoring funded project (success threshold)
Stream 1	82.8%
Stream 2	82.8%

9. *Number of re-submissions and number that were successful in the Nov 2020 round.*

We estimate that the cost of determining the total number of re-submissions would exceed the appropriate statutory limit as specified within Section 12 of the FOIA which for UKRI is set at £450; this represents the estimated cost of 18 hours of staff resource on locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

To explain further, in order to gather this information we would be required to review each individual application. Given the volume of applications, our reasonable time estimate to complete these tasks would be over 125 hours to extract the relevant data at 5 minutes per application. Consequently, UKRI is not obliged under Section 12 of the FOIA to process this section of your request further.

We are, however, able to confirm that of the 73 successful applications, 16 were marked as a resubmission (13 from Stream 1 and 3 from Stream 2). It is worth noting that the resubmission option is self-selected by the applicant during the application process and not verified by Innovate UK.

During eligibility checks, the content of applications (but not the resubmission question data) is reviewed using artificial intelligence to ensure the resubmission limit has not been exceeded. This is to ensure that the checks are thorough and that applicants cannot get additional applications through by answering "no" to the resubmission question.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance

Email: [foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) or [infogovernance@ukri.org](mailto:infogovernance@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: <http://www.ico.gov.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 policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,

  
Information Governance  
Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
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