UK Research and Innovation

21 September 2020

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Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00282

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 4 September in which you requested the following:

Your request:

RE: Sustainable Innovation Fund Round 1 (Deadline 29 July 2020). (Applicants were notified of their outcomes on 28 August 2020).

I would be very grateful if you could please provide the below information on the above funding competition:

1. *The total number of applications submitted and the number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding)*
2. *The overall number of applications awarded funding and a breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications and how many were resubmissions*
3. *The total number of applications within each innovation area and the number of those that were successful in each area*
4. *The average grant request and project size of the applications successfully awarded funding*
5. *The average score of successful applications*
6. *The percentages of successful applications that were Industrial Research and Experimental Development*
7. *The number of successful Industrial Research and Experimental Development projects that were;*
   (i) *Single applicant/partner*
   (ii) *2 partners*
   (iii) *3+ partners*
8. *The total funding allocated in this competition round.*

Our response:

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

1. *The total number of applications submitted and the number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding)*

   1481 total applications were submitted and 1337 were assessed.

2. *The overall number of applications awarded funding and a breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications and how many were resubmissions*

   407 applications were awarded funding. 20 of these applications declared as resubmissions.

3. The total number of applications within each innovation area and the number of those that were successful in each area

Innovation Area	Total Applications	Successful Applications
Agricultural productivity	25	11
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	25	16
Digital industries	229	67
Biosciences	32	17
Digital health	113	33
Composite materials	5	3
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	7	3
Energy efficiency	59	13
Urban living	37	14
Emerging technology	44	2
Material recovery and treatment	11	3
Resource efficiency	34	12
Advanced therapies	3	3
Digital technology	231	57
Energy - other	41	11
Sustainable materials	25	9
Creative industries	60	23
Chemical / bio processes	11	6
Energy systems	23	8
Other transport	20	8
Offshore wind	9	5
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1	1
Independent living and wellbeing	11	4
Robotics and autonomous systems	12	3
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	13	9
Smart infrastructure	32	12
Electronics, sensors and photonics	12	9
Digital manufacturing	5	3
Connected transport	19	4
Polymers and plastics	4	1
Marine transport	8	3
Energy and automotive	8	1
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	9	8
Non-metallics	1	1
Aerospace	8	3
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	4	3
Surface engineering	3	2

Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	4	2
Low carbon vehicles	16	5
Enhancing food quality	7	2
Forming technologies	2	1
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	2	2
Space technology	2	1
Connected and autonomous vehicles	4	1
Electronics manufacturing	2	1
Electronic materials and manufacturing	2	1
Rail transport	5	0
Satellite applications	4	0
Precision medicine	2	0
Therapeutic and medicine development	1	0
Metals / metallurgy	1	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design	1	0
Other/Unspecified	86	0

4. *The average grant request and project size of the applications successfully awarded funding*

   Average grant request: £199,073.29
   Average project size: £255,144.52

5. *The average score of successful applications*

   77.5%

6. *The percentages of successful applications that were Industrial Research and Experimental Development*

   Industrial Research: 49.8%
   Experimental Development: 50.2%

7. *The number of successful Industrial Research and Experimental Development projects that were;*
   (i) *Single applicant/partner*

   Industrial Research: 106
   Experimental Development: 130

   (ii) *2 partners*

   Industrial Research: 55
   Experimental Development: 42

   (iii) *3+ partners*

   Industrial Research: 42
   Experimental Development: 32

8. *The total funding allocated in this competition round*

   £81,022,827

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:
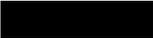
Head of Information Governance
Email: foi@ukri.org or infogovernance@ukri.org

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
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