



6<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2026/00020**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 9 January in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*For Innovate UK innovation loans future economy: Round 19 and 20, 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 passed the initial credit check.*
5. *The success rate.*
6. *The minimum successful score.*
7. *The maximum successful score.*
8. *Minimum score of applications that passed the initial credit check.*
9. *Maximum score of applications that passed the initial credit check.*
10. *Maximum score of failed applications.*
11. *Average loan value per project.*
12. *Average score of funded projects.*
13. *The score distributions of the applications (e.g. % (or number) of applications which scored <70, 70.1-75, 75.1-80, 80.1-85, 85.1-90, 90.1-95, 95.1-100).*
14. *The count of assessed applications by themes.*
15. *The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.*
16. *The average project duration.*
17. *The distribution of project duration across the different project phases (availability period, drawdown, extension period, repayment period).*

**Our response**

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold some information relevant to your request. Please see the information provided in the attached document, "*FOI2026\_00020 - Appendix 1*".

This data is based on information available at the time of the request. For Round 20, the assessment process has not completed for all eligible applications, and so these numbers could potentially change.

In preparing this response we have considered the risks of identifying individuals from small numbers, therefore, in line with standard statistical reporting practice, data has been suppressed to mitigate against the disclosure of personal data.

We consider that under Section 40(2) of the FOIA, this data would be exempt where it relates to fewer than five individuals. We believe that to disclose information relating to small numbers of individuals would contravene the first Data Protection Principle as defined under Section 86 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 5 of UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) of lawfulness, fairness and transparency.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test.

As mentioned above, categories consisting of between one and four individuals have been suppressed as personal information under section 40(2) of the FOIA and are indicated by '< 5'. Where there are no members within a category, a count of zero is recorded.

Please note that the innovation score is not the sole determining factor of an application as a credit assessment and business assessment also takes place. To explain further, an idea could be highly innovative and achieve a very high innovation score however if it fails the credit assessment and business assessment, which looks at suitability to take on debt finance from a credit perspective, then the loan may still be declined.

## 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>