



23 June 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2021/00269**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 27 May in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*I'd like know a bit about the audits that IUK do.*

*Can you please explain the 'gold, silver and bronze' category projects and in what circumstances they would get audited?*

**Our response:**

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

Each Innovate UK (IUK) project will be classified as having either a Gold, Silver or Bronze Monitoring Service Level on the basis of their characteristics. These monitoring categories are used to determine the amount of time a monitoring officer spends on a project. There are different monitoring requirements for each classification:

- Gold Monitoring Service Level requires monthly monitoring and reporting to IUK. Physical attendance at a day-long review meeting each month, unless remote attendance is agreed in writing by the monitoring team.
- Silver Monitoring Service Level requires quarterly monitoring and reporting to IUK. Physical attendance at a day-long review meeting each quarter, unless remote attendance is agreed in writing by the monitoring team.
- Bronze Monitoring Service Level requires mid and final term monitoring and provision of one mid-term monitoring report and one final monitoring report. No review meetings are required, with monitoring being document based and conducted remotely.

Projects are classified based on the highest scoring answers to a set of questions:

Question	Requirement	Answer Score 3	Answer Score 2	Answer Score 1
<b>A</b>	How frequently do you require the MO to monitor progress of the grant?	Monthly monitoring	Quarterly monitoring	Mid & final term monitoring
<b>B</b>	What is the duration of required monitoring of the grant?	Typically 3 years project life	Greater than 9 months but less than 3 years project life	Typically less than 9 months project life
<b>C</b>	How complex is the project in terms of number of participants to the grant?	10 or more participants	5 to 9 participants	Not more than 4 participants

D	What is the value of the grant that is being monitored?	Total award value above £10m	Total award value above £50k but less than £10m	Total award value less than £50k
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If the highest answer to any question scores 3, then the project is classified as Gold. If the highest answer to any question scores 2, then the project is classified as Silver. If the highest answer to any question scores 1, then the project is classified as Bronze. At least three out of four questions must be determined.

IUK does, however, reserve the right in exceptional cases, to apply whatever classification it deems necessary in order to meet their business needs.

Please note that the above is a simple guide only for indicative purposes. The project characteristics of each Monitoring Service Level are indicative only and do not, for example, form a continuous scale of value. The decision over classification of a given project will be taken by the monitoring team in consultation with the lot owner, before any invitation to tender is issued and the classification will be included in the project brief.

The circumstances under which a project may be audited is unrelated to which Monitoring Service Level a project is classified.

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