



15 January 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00984**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 12 December in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*For Innovate UK's Smart grants: June 2023 competition (both the <18 month (<£500k) and >18 month streams), 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 success rate.
5. The minimum successful score.
6. The maximum successful score.
7. Maximum score of failed applications.
8. Average grant fund value per project.
9. Average score of funded projects.
10. 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).
11. The count of assessed applications by innovation area.
12. The count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand.
13. The count of assessed applications by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development).
14. The count of successful projects by research category.
15. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.

**Our response**

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

**Table 1: Questions 1-9 and 15**

Question	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
1. The number of applications submitted.	Applicants are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed. There were 1629 applications submitted.		
2. The number of assessed applications.	1291	126	1417
3. The number of successful applications.	56	7	63
4. The success rate.	4.3%	5.7%	4.5%

5. The minimum successful score.	85.6%	88.9%	
6. The maximum successful score.	93.3%	91.1%	
7. Maximum score of failed applications.	85%	88.30%	
8. Average grant fund value per project. <sup>1</sup>	£295,388.77	£770,083.86	£532,736.32
9. Average score of funded projects. <sup>1,2</sup>	88.1	89.5%	
15. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score. <sup>3</sup>	0	0	

<sup>1</sup>Average value of funding sought for 'successful' applications at the assessment stage. 'Successful' applications are still subject to due diligence process and may not be funded.

<sup>2</sup>Figures are based on 'successful' applications at the assessment stage, 'successful' applications are still subject to due diligence process and may not be funded.

**Table 2: Question 10 - 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).**

Score <sup>1</sup> Range	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
0-70%	720	34	754
70.1-75%	219	21	240
75.1-80%	172	14	186
80.1-85%	152	15	167
85.1-90%	50	10	60
90.1-95%	9	1	10
95.1-100%	0	0	0

**Table 3: Question 11 - The count of assessed applications by innovation area**

Innovation Area	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total number
Not Specified	73	3	76
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	3	2	5
Advanced therapies	7	1	8
Aerospace	12	3	15
Agricultural productivity	5	3	8
Assembly / disassembly / joining	0	1	1
Biosciences	40	3	43
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	1	1	2
Chemical / bio processes	10	3	13
Composite materials	8	4	12
Connected and autonomous vehicles	3	0	3
Connected transport	9	2	11
Creative industries	53	3	56
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	54	22	76
Digital health	134	11	145
Digital industries	370	5	375
Digital manufacturing	9	1	10
Digital technology	199	2	201
Electronic materials and manufacturing	2	1	3

Electronics manufacturing	5	0	5
Electronics, sensors and photonics	7	1	8
Emerging technology	57	6	63
Energy - other	18	5	23
Energy and automotive	7	0	7
Energy efficiency	38	6	44
Energy systems	19	2	21
Enhancing food quality	6	2	8
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	14	0	14
Low carbon vehicles	5	2	7
Marine transport	2	1	3
Material recovery and treatment	9	5	14
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	10	2	12
Metals / metallurgy	2	0	2
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	4	0	4
Nuclear fission	2	1	3
Offshore wind	4	2	6
Other transport	11	1	12
Polymers and plastics	2	2	4
Precision medicine	4	0	4
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	2	2	4
Rail transport	3	1	4
Resource efficiency	15	2	17
Robotics and autonomous systems	8	1	9
Satellite applications	1	0	1
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	2	2	4
Smart infrastructure	11	2	13
Space technology	1	0	1
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	0	1	1
Sustainable materials	8	4	12
Therapeutic and medicine development	11	1	12
Urban living	10	1	11
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1417</b>

**Table 4: Question 12 - The count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand.**

Innovation Area	6-18 months	19-36 Months	Total number
Not Specified	2	0	2
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1	1	2
Advanced therapies	1	0	1
Aerospace	0	0	0
Agricultural productivity	2	0	2
Assembly / disassembly / joining	0	0	0
Biosciences	1	0	1
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	0	0	0
Chemical / bio processes	0	0	0

Composite materials	1	0	1
Connected and autonomous vehicles	0	0	0
Connected transport	0	0	0
Creative industries	3	0	3
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	7	1	8
Digital health	9	1	10
Digital industries	13	0	13
Digital manufacturing	0	0	0
Digital technology	4	0	4
Electronic materials and manufacturing	0	1	1
Electronics manufacturing	0	0	0
Electronics, sensors and photonics	0	0	0
Emerging technology	1	0	1
Energy - other	0	0	0
Energy and automotive	0	0	0
Energy efficiency	0	0	0
Energy systems	0	0	0
Enhancing food quality	0	0	0
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	1	0	1
Low carbon vehicles	0	0	0
Marine transport	0	0	0
Material recovery and treatment	0	0	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	1	0	1
Metals / metallurgy	0	0	0
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	0	0	0
Nuclear fission	0	0	0
Offshore wind	0	0	0
Other transport	1	0	1
Polymers and plastics	0	1	1
Precision medicine	0	0	0
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	0	0	0
Rail transport	0	0	0
Resource efficiency	1	0	1
Robotics and autonomous systems	0	0	0
Satellite applications	0	0	0
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	0	0	0
Smart infrastructure	1	0	1
Space technology	0	0	0
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	0	0	0
Sustainable materials	4	1	5
Therapeutic and medicine development	0	1	1
Urban living	1	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>63</b>

**Table 5: Question 13 - The count of assessed applications by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development)**

Research Category	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total number
Experimental development	189	10	199
Feasibility studies	182	15	197
Industrial research	920	101	1021
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1417</b>

**Table 6: Question 14 - The count of successful projects by research category**

Research Category	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total number
Experimental development	2	0	2
Feasibility studies	3	1	4
Industrial research	51	6	57
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>63</b>

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 within the next 40 working days:

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 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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