

[REDACTED]

2 November 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00762

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 5 October in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am trying to better understand the funding process, and portfolio approach of Innovate UK. Specifically, for the Innovation Loans Future Economy competitions in 2022/2023 - Rounds 7 to 10:

- [Round 7](#)¹ (Competition opened: Thursday 10 November 2022, Competition closes: Wednesday 11 January 2023)
- [Round 8](#)² (Competition opened: Friday 13 January 2023, Competition closes: Wednesday 8 March 2023)
- [Round 9](#)³ (Competition opened: Thursday 11 May 2023, Competition closes: Wednesday 12 July 2023)
- [Round 10](#)⁴ (Competition opened: Saturday 15 July 2023, Competition closes: Wednesday 13 September 2023)

Could you kindly provide the following application information, split by Rounds 7 to 10:

1. Total number of applications.
2. Total number of applications ineligible for assessment.
3. Total number of successful applications.
4. Total number of applications considered a resubmission of a previous application.
5. Total number of successful applications which were considered a resubmission of a previous application.
6. The score of the lowest scoring funded project.
7. The score of the highest scoring funded project.
8. The score of the highest non-funded project.
9. The average (mean) score of funded projects.
10. Average loan value for funded projects.
11. The number of assessed applications by theme area: Net Zero, Health and Wellbeing, Next generation digital technologies, Technology families.
12. The number of successful applications by theme area: Net Zero, Health and Wellbeing, Next generation digital technologies, Technology families.
13. The number of projects invited to a detailed credit analysis check.
14. The number of projects invited to detailed credit analysis check (as in Q13) but not funded due to credit analysis results or a failure to meet loan offer conditions.
15. The number of applications progressed to detailed credit analysis but not funded due to withdrawal.

¹ <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1375/overview/1a5b8bf6-a721-4137-85a6-ac6c41f06cf9>

² <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1443/overview/be81a96a-cc58-4db3-ad1c-62fb38519027>

³ <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1574/overview/927ec67e-225e-47f5-ae92-bc1a79a0ccc9>

⁴ <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1654/overview/33be7777-e4d6-4e79-abb4-eb036e4649b>

Our response:

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

Question	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9	Round 10
1. The total number of applications	67	79	68	45
2. Total number of applications ineligible for assessment.	23	22	21	14
3.Total number of successful applications	4	1	-	-
4.Total number of applications considered a resubmission of a previous application.	18	23	15	9
5.Total number of successful applications which were considered a resubmission of a previous application.	2	1	-	-
6.The score of the lowest scoring funded project.	74.60	72.80	-	-
7.The score of the highest scoring funded project.	87.00	72.80	-	-
8.The score of the highest non-funded project.	89.60	91.60	-	-
9.The average (mean) score of funded projects.	80.8	72.8	-	-
10.Average loan value for funded projects.	£640,985.50	£1,100,000.00	-	-
11.The number of assessed applications by theme area: Net Zero, Health and Wellbeing, Next generation digital technologies, Technology families.	UKRI does not hold information in scope of these questions. Further details are provided below			
12.The number of successful applications by theme area: Net Zero, Health and Wellbeing, Next generation digital technologies, Technology families.				
13.The number of projects invited to a detailed credit analysis check.	8	10	11	8
14.The number of projects invited to detailed credit analysis check (as in Q13) but not funded due to credit analysis results or a failure to meet loan offer conditions.	3	3	-	-
15.The number of applications progressed to detailed credit analysis but not funded due to withdrawal.	0	0	-	-

As noted above, UKRI does not hold information in scope of questions 11 and 12 of your request.

To explain further, applicants are required to demonstrate that they fall within the overall 'future economy' scope, but we do not require them to select a specific theme area for their application. We conduct manual checks to ensure applications are within scope. Applications not in scope will not be sent to assessment. Under the FOI Act we are only obligated to respond to requests for information held, and these questions fall outside of the scope of the legislation as they would require UKRI to generate new information; staff members would need to review and record their judgements on whether an application fits a specific theme. As this is not recorded information UKRI already holds these questions fall outside the scope of the Act.

Please also note:

- The data for Questions 3 to 10 includes applications which have conditional loan offers from Innovate UK Loans Ltd following Credit Committee approval, but which remain subject to final documentation or satisfaction of conditions precedent to first drawdown and funding.
- The data in Questions 3, 14 and 15 does not include applications which are still in the detailed credit evaluation process and have not yet received a final decision from the Credit Committee.
- The assessor scores shown in Questions 6 to 9 relate to the project proposal only. Decisions to progress applications to detailed credit evaluation or to decline applications also take into account initial credit evaluation decisions by the Credit Committee.

- A dash indicates the information is not held, due to no applications being withdrawn, rejected or successful at the detailed credit evaluation stage yet.

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

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.

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,


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Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
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