

20 July 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00393

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 23 June in which you requested the following:

Your request:

For Innovate UK's

- *Biomedical Catalyst 2022 Round 1: Industry-led R&D competition*
- *Biomedical Catalyst 2022 Round 2: Industry-led R&D competition*
- *Biomedical Catalyst 2023 Round 1: Industry-led R&D competition please could you release the following information:*

- *The number of applicants that applied with projects with over £500k grant requests for each round*
- *The number of applicants that were invited to interview for each round*
- *The number of applicants that were awarded funding post-interview for each round*
- *The minimum score of the applicants that were invited to interview for each round*
- *The maximum score of the applicants that were invited to interview for each round*
- *The count of applicants that were invited to interview by innovation area.*

Additionally, please could you release the Biomedical Catalysts scoring criteria for the written assessment and the criteria that Innovate UK takes for inviting to interview for the BMC.

Our response

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

	Biomedical Catalyst 2022 Round 1: Industry-led R&D	Biomedical Catalyst 2022 Round 2: Industry-led R&D	Biomedical Catalyst 2023 Round 1: Industry-led R&D
all figures for over 500k strand			
Total applications	149	167	119
Total successful applications	14	27	10
Minimum successful score¹	80.8	77	80.2
Maximum successful score¹	89.8	90.6	85.2
Total number of applications invited to interview	30	30	30

Innovation area of applications invited to interview			
Biosciences	0	1	1
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	13	13	12
Digital Health	2	3	6
Precision medicine	2	2	2
Therapeutic and medicine development	11	8	9
Advanced Therapies	1	3	0
Independent Living and Wellbeing	1	0	0

¹All scores are the written assessment scores and are given as percentages

Projects considered under strand 1 (over £500k) had a two-stage assessment. The first was a written assessment and projects were then selected for interview on both the assessor score and the portfolio review criteria. All applications selected for interview from strand 1 scored over the quality threshold of 70%, and the Innovation Lead selected the highest scoring projects to give a balanced portfolio of different innovation areas. The written scores were then superseded by the interview panel scores, which were used to determine funded projects based on a top-down approach.

Projects in strand 2 (under £500k) for this round were selected based on a top-down approach until the competition budget was reached. We reserve the right to undertake a Portfolio Approach for future rounds in strand 2. More information on the portfolio approach can be found in the [Innovate UK General Guidance](#).¹

We are also providing the documents for the scoring criteria '*FOI2023-00393 Interview Panel guidance for assessors*' and the interview assessment criteria '*FOI2023-00393 BMC R1 Assessor Guidance V1*'.

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

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,

Information Governance
Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
foi@ukri.org | dataprotection@ukri.org

¹ https://www.ukri.org/councils/innovate-uk/guidance-for-applicants/general-guidance/what-happens-after-you-have-submitted-your-application/?_ga=2.70744656.1770083017.1663756381-2126497687.1663161362#contents-list