



[REDACTED]

2 February 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2021/00004**

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

**Your request:**

*What are the internal rules and guidance for InnovateUK concerning resubmissions by grant applicants for the Framework Programme and similar government funding programmes?*

**Our response**

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

Under Section 21 - Information already reasonably accessible, of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) the information you have requested is already available in the public domain [here](#)<sup>1</sup>. Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means that there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test. We have extracted information on our rules and guidance on resubmissions from the general guidance used by Innovate UK (IUK) when assessing funding applications, which is available at the above link. The extract below applies to resubmissions as follows:

**Your previous projects**

In relation to previous projects:

- Before you start your application you must make sure that any previous projects have been completed fully.
- If you applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole organisation and were awarded funding by Innovate UK or UK Research and Innovation, but did not make a substantial effort to exploit that award, we will award no more funding to you, in this or any other competition. You will not be able to contest our decision.

We will:

- assess your efforts in the previous competition against your exploitation plan for that project.
- review the monitoring officers' reports and any other relevant sources for evidence.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/innovation-apply-for-a-funding-award>

- document our decision, which will be made by 3 team members, and communicate it to you in writing.

Under the terms of Innovate UK funding, you must submit an independent accountant's report (IAR) with your final claim. If you or any organisation in your consortium failed to submit an IAR on a previous project, we will not award funding to you in any other competition until we have received the documents.

### **Regarding your application:**

We will not send your application for assessment:

1. if you:
  - deliberately increase word count using punctuation
  - use unprofessional, aggressive or threatening language
  - submit with a notable lack of content
  - apply with no clear innovation
2. if the application:
  - is the same as, or very similar to, a project that has received public funds previously
  - is the same as, or very similar to, another application
  - has already been submitted for assessment in 2 other competitions
  - if the competition does not allow a previously submitted application

### **Regarding a previously unsuccessful application:**

- You can submit an application that was unsuccessful in one previous competition. You can improve your application based on the assessors' feedback and the scope of the competition.
- If you submit a new application this time you can only submit the updated application into one future competition that allows this.

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,

[Redacted Signature]

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