



[REDACTED]

8th September 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00613

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 15 August in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am trying to better understand the funding process of Innovate UK, in particular SMART competition.

For the following competition could you kindly provide:

Innovate UK Smart Grants: January 2023

(Competitions opened: Thursday 19 January 2023, Competition closed: Wednesday 14 June 2023).

<https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1448/overview/304e6f31-0117-44d1-8c2c-4852876a7928>

Split into the 2 streams where possible:

** <18 month stream [<£500k]*

** >18 month stream*

Application Data:

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 success rate.
7. The score of the lowest scoring funded project.
8. The score of the highest scoring funded project.
9. The score of the highest non-funded project.
10. The average (mean) score of funded projects.
11. Average grant fund value of funded projects.
12. The score distributions of the applications (eg. % (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).
13. The number of assessed applications by research category.
14. The number of successful projects by research category.
15. The number of assessed applications by innovation area.
16. The number of successful projects by innovation area.
17. The number of unsuccessful applicants, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Our response

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

	Stream 1 (6-18 months)	Stream 2 (19-36 months)	Total
1. The number of applications.	Applications are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed. There were 1716 applications submitted.		
2. Total number of applications ineligible for assessment.	Applications are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed. There were 223 ineligible applications.		
3. Total number of successful applications.	41	5	46
4. Total number of applications considered a resubmission of a previous application.	297	45	242
5. Total number of successful applications which were considered a resubmission of a previous application.	9	2	11
6. The success rate.	3.0%	3.5%	3.1%
7. The score of the lowest scoring funded project.	85.7%	88%	
8. The score of the highest scoring funded project.	95.4%	91.3%	
9. The score of the highest non-funded project.	85.4%	87%	
10. The average (mean) score of funded projects.	87.5%	89.2%	
11. Average grant fund value of funded projects.	£282,624.00	£692,734.00	£327,201.00

12. The score distributions of the applications (eg. % (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).

Score¹ Range	Number		
	6-18 months	19-36 months	Total
<=70	723	52	775
70.1-75	263	36	299
75.1-80	200	28	228
80.1-85	121	16	137
85.1-90	41	8	49
90.1-95	3	1	4
95.1-100	1	0	1

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

13. The number of assessed applications by research category.

Research Category	6-18 months	19-36 months	Total number
Experimental development	216	8	224
Feasibility studies	198	15	213

Industrial research	938	118	1056
Grand Total	1352	141	1493

14. The number of successful projects by research category.

Research Category	6-18 months	19-36 months	Total number
Experimental development	4	1	5
Feasibility studies	1	0	1
Industrial research	36	4	40
Grand Total	41	5	46

15. The number of assessed applications by innovation area.

Innovation Area	6-18 months	19-36 months	Total number
Not Specified	55	5	60
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	7	4	11
Advanced therapies	6	2	8
Aerospace	6	2	8
Agricultural productivity	12	6	18
Biosciences	31	6	37
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	1	0	1
Chemical / bio processes	6	0	6
Composite materials	3	2	5
Connected and autonomous vehicles	5	0	5
Connected transport	14	1	15
Creative industries	67	7	74
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	50	3	53
Digital health	135	11	146
Digital industries	429	7	436
Digital manufacturing	7	1	8
Digital technology	198	13	211
Electronic materials and manufacturing	4	0	4
Electronics manufacturing	1	2	3
Electronics, sensors and photonics	5	0	5
Emerging technology	44	10	54
Energy - other	31	4	35
Energy and automotive	6	3	9
Energy efficiency	27	4	31
Energy systems	13	3	16
Enhancing food quality	9	2	11
Forming technologies	0	1	1
Independent living and wellbeing	8	0	8
Low carbon vehicles	15	7	22
Marine transport	5	0	5
Material recovery and treatment	7	4	11
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	14	5	19

Metals / metallurgy	2	1	3
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	7	1	8
Nuclear fission	1	0	1
Offshore wind	6	2	8
Other transport	10	0	10
Polymers and plastics	4	2	6
Precision medicine	2	1	3
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	8	0	8
Rail transport	4	1	5
Resource efficiency	19	2	21
Robotics and autonomous systems	20	2	22
Satellite applications	3	0	3
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	4	4	8
Smart infrastructure	11	2	13
Space technology	0	1	1
Surface engineering	2	0	2
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	2	2	4
Sustainable materials	7	4	11
Therapeutic and medicine development	6	1	7
Urban living	13	0	13
Grand Total	1352	141	1493

16. The number of successful projects by innovation area.

Innovation Area	6-18 months	19-36 months	Total number
Not Specified	2	0	2
Biosciences	1	0	1
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	1	0	1
Chemical / bio processes	1	0	1
Composite materials	1	0	1
Connected transport	1	0	1
Creative industries	2	0	2
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	3	0	3
Digital health	2	0	2
Digital industries	9	0	9
Digital manufacturing	2	0	2
Digital technology	5	1	6
Electronic materials and manufacturing	1	0	1
Emerging technology	1	0	1
Energy - other	2	1	3
Energy systems	1	0	1
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	0	1	1
Metals / metallurgy	1	0	1
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	0	1	1
Resource efficiency	2	0	2
Sustainable materials	2	1	3
Therapeutic and medicine development	1	0	1

Grand Total	41	5	46
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17. The number of unsuccessful applicants, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.

Smart funds on a top-down basis based on the scores provided by the independent assessors and split across the two streams as detailed in the [online competition brief](#). There are therefore no applications that scored above the minimum funded score and were unsuccessful.

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
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