



[REDACTED]

25 October 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00870**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 30 September in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*For Innovate UK's Innovate UK Smart grants: April 2024 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.

The following information is being provided ahead of the competition result to provide further context and help explain how the data has been gathered:

- All scores are the written assessment scores and are given as percentages.
- Average value of funding sought for 'successful' applications at the assessment stage.
- Figures are based on 'successful' applications at the assessment stage, 'successful' applications are still subject to due diligence and may not be funded.
- Funding threshold = lowest successful score.

**Table 1 - Questions 1–8:**

Question	06-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
1.The number of applications submitted.	1,463	182	1,645
2.The number of assessed applications.	1,241	107	1,348
3.The number of successful applications.	43	3	46
4.The success rate. (Assessed against funders panel total numbers)	3%	3%	3%
5.The score of the lowest scoring funded project. (Minimum successful score)	86.1	89.4	N/A
6.The score of the highest scoring funded project. (Maximum Successful)	95.0	96.1	N/A
7.Maximum score of failed applications.	85.6	88.9	N/A
8.Average score of funded application.	88.1	92.0	N/A

**Table 2 - Question 9:**

Question	06-18 Months	19-36 Months
9.Average project size of the applications successfully awarded funding (Project cost)	£420,673.16	£923,953.67

**Table 3 - Question 10: “The score distributions of the applications (e.g. % (or number) of applications which scored <70, 71-75, 76-80, 81-85, 86+)”**

Score Range	Number			Percentage	
	06- 18 Months	19-36 Months	Total	06-18 Months	19-36 Months
<=70	632	46	678	50.93%	42.99%
70.1-75	212	19	231	17.08%	17.76%
75.1-80	210	20	230	16.92%	18.69%
80.1-85	135	14	149	10.88%	13.08%
85.1-90	46	6	52	3.71%	5.61%
90.1-95	6	1	7	0.48%	0.93%
95.1-100	0	1	1	0.00%	0.93%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Table 4 - Question 11: “The count of assessed applications by innovation area”.**

Innovation Area	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
No Data Given	45	0	45
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	3	0	3
Advanced therapies	13	3	16
Aerospace	7	0	7
Agricultural productivity	17	0	17
Assembly / disassembly / joining	3	0	3
Biosciences	35	8	43
Chemical / bio processes	6	0	6
Composite materials	5	3	8
Connected and autonomous vehicles	3	2	5
Connected transport	9	1	10
Creative industries	39	3	42
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	63	12	75
Digital health	127	14	141
Digital industries	316	7	323
Digital manufacturing	4	2	6
Digital technology	239	5	244
Electronic materials and manufacturing	2	1	3
Electronics manufacturing	7	1	8
Electronics, sensors and photonics	2	5	7
Emerging technology	43	6	49
Energy - other	28	5	33
Energy and automotive	5	1	6
Energy efficiency	19	4	23
Energy systems	18	2	20
Enhancing food quality	11	1	12
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	9	0	9
Low carbon vehicles	6	1	7
Marine transport	2	3	5
Material recovery and treatment	12	4	16
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	21	2	23
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	3	0	3
Offshore wind	3	0	3
Other transport	7	0	7
Polymers and plastics	5	0	5
Precision medicine	8	1	9
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	14	0	14
Rail transport	2	2	4
Resource efficiency	10	0	10
Robotics and autonomous systems	11	1	12
Satellite applications	3	0	3
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	3	0	3
Smart infrastructure	19	3	22
Space technology	3	0	3
Surface engineering	1	0	1
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	2	0	2
Sustainable materials	10	2	12
Therapeutic and medicine development	9	2	11
Urban living	8	0	8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1,348</b>

**Table 5 – Question 12: “The count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand”.**

Innovation Area	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total number
No Data Given	1	0	1
Agricultural productivity	2	0	2
Biosciences	1	0	1
Creative industries	1	0	1
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	1	0	1
Digital health	4	0	4
Digital industries	10	0	10
Digital technology	6	0	6
Emerging technology	3	1	4
Energy - other	1	0	1
Energy efficiency	1	0	1
Energy systems	2	0	2
Material recovery and treatment	1	1	2
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	1	0	1
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	1	0	1
Rail transport	1	0	1
Resource efficiency	2	0	2
Smart infrastructure	2	1	3
Sustainable materials	1	0	1
Therapeutic and medicine development	1	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>46</b>

**Table 6 – Question 13: “The count of assessed applications by research category”.**

Research Category	6-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total number
Experimental development	153	4	157
Feasibility studies	180	24	204
Industrial research	908	79	987
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1,348</b>

**Table 7 – Question 14: “The count of successful projects by research category”.**

Research Category	6-18 Months	19-24 Month	Total number
Experimental development	1	0	1
Feasibility studies	1	1	2
Industrial research	41	2	43
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>46</b>

**Table 8 – Question 15: “The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score”.**

Question	6-18 Months	19-24 Month
15.The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.	0	0

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](#)<sup>1</sup>.

Yours sincerely,

  
Information Governance  
Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
[foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) | [dataprotection@ukri.org](mailto:dataprotection@ukri.org)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>