



[REDACTED]

8 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00198

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 8 March in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am trying to better understand the funding process, and portfolio approach of Innovate UK. For the following competition

Innovate UK Smart grants: June 2023

<https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1539/overview/c1be09e2-f448-4559-8a56-2ab5c5c5d090>

Competition opens: Thursday 15 June 2023

Competition closes: Thursday 28 September 2023 11:00am

Could you kindly provide, 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.*

Our response

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

Table 1: Questions 1-11 and 17

Question	Stream 1 (0-18 months) <£500k	Stream 2 (19-36 months) >£500k	Total
1. The number of applications submitted.	1427	202	1629
2. Total number of applications ineligible for assessment	212 ⁴		
3. The number of assessed applications.	1291	126	1417
3. The number of successful applications.	57	6	63
4. Total number of applications considered a resubmission of a previous application.	397	51	448
5. Total number of successful applications which were considered a resubmission of a previous application.	19	2	21
6. The success rate.	4%	5%	4%
7. The minimum successful score. ¹	85.6	88.9	
8. The maximum successful score. ¹	93.30	91	
9. Maximum score of failed applications. ¹	85.0	88.30	
10. Average score of funded projects. ^{1,3}	88.15	89.43	
11. Average grant fund value per project. ²	£295,388.77	£770,083.86	£348,132.67
17. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.	10	0	10

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

² Average value of funding sought for 'successful' applications at the assessment stage.

³ Figures are based on 'successful' applications at the assessment stage, 'successful' applications are still subject to due diligence process and may not be funded.

⁴ Applications are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed, so only a total is available.

Table 2: Question 12. 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).

Score ¹ Range	Number			Percentage		
	0-18	19-36	Total	0-18	19-36	Total
<=70	700	54	754	54.22%	42.86%	53.21%
70.1-75	219	21	240	16.96%	16.67%	16.94%
75.1-80	169	17	186	13.09%	13.49%	13.13%
80.1-85	147	20	167	11.39%	15.87%	11.79%
85.1-90	47	13	60	3.64%	10.32%	4.23%
90.1-95	9	1	10	0.70%	0.79%	0.71%
95.1-100	0	0	0	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
	1291	126	1417			

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

Table 3: Question 13. The count of assessed applications by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development).

Research Category	0-18	19-36	Total number
Experimental development	189	10	199
Feasibility studies	182	15	197
Industrial research	920	101	1021
Grand Total	1291	126	1417

Table 4: Question 14. The count of successful projects by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development).

Research Category	0-18	19-36	Total number
Experimental development	2	0	2
Feasibility studies	3	1	4
Industrial research	51	6	57
Grand Total	56	7	63

Table 5: Question 15. The count of assessed applications by innovation area.

Innovation Area	Streams		Grand Total
	0-18	19-36	
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	3	2	5
Advanced therapies	7	1	8
Aerospace	12	3	15
Agricultural productivity	5	3	8
Assembly / disassembly / joining	0	1	1
Biosciences	40	3	43
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	1	1	2
Chemical / bio processes	10	3	13
Composite materials	8	4	12
Connected and autonomous vehicles	3	0	3
Connected transport	9	2	11
Creative industries	53	3	56
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	54	22	76
Digital health	134	11	145
Digital industries	370	5	375
Digital manufacturing	9	1	10
Digital technology	199	2	201
Electronic materials and manufacturing	2	1	3
Electronics manufacturing	5	0	5
Electronics, sensors and photonics	7	1	8
Emerging technology	57	6	63
Energy - other	18	5	23
Energy and automotive	7	0	7
Energy efficiency	38	6	44
Energy systems	19	2	21

Enhancing food quality	6	2	8
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	14	0	14
Low carbon vehicles	5	2	7
Marine transport	2	1	3
Material recovery and treatment	9	5	14
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	10	2	12
Metals / metallurgy	2	0	2
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	4	0	4
Nuclear fission	2	1	3
Offshore wind	4	2	6
Other transport	11	1	12
Polymers and plastics	2	2	4
Precision medicine	4	0	4
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	2	2	4
Rail transport	3	1	4
Resource efficiency	15	2	17
Robotics and autonomous systems	8	1	9
Satellite applications	1	0	1
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	2	2	4
Smart infrastructure	11	2	13
Space technology	1	0	1
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	0	1	1
Sustainable materials	8	4	12
Therapeutic and medicine development	11	1	12
Urban living	10	1	11
Not specified	73	3	76
Grand Total	1291	126	1417

Table 6: Question 16. The count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand.

	Streams		
Row Labels	0-18	19-36	Grand Total
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1	1	2
Advanced therapies	1	0	1
Agricultural productivity	2	0	2
Biosciences	1	0	1
Composite materials	1	0	1
Creative industries	3	0	3
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	7	1	8
Digital health	9	1	10
Digital industries	13	0	13
Digital technology	4	0	4
Electronic materials and manufacturing	0	1	1
Emerging technology	1	0	1
Forming technologies	1	0	1

Independent living and wellbeing	1	0	1
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	1	0	1
Other transport	1	0	1
Polymers and plastics	0	1	1
Resource efficiency	1	0	1
Smart infrastructure	1	0	1
Sustainable materials	4	1	5
Therapeutic and medicine development	0	1	1
Urban living	1	0	1
Not specified	2	0	2
Grand Total	56	7	63

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,


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Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
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