

21 April 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00119

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 29 March in which you requested the following:

Your request:

For Innovate UK's Smart Grants October 2021 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 UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

Information in relation to questions 1 to 9 is provided in the table below:

Question		Stream 1 (6-18 month projects)	Stream 2 (19-36 month projects)
1	The number of applications*	1266	
2	The number of assessed applications	918	154
3	The number of successful applications	63	8
4	The success rate	6.86%	5.19%
5	The minimum successful score	83.5%	87%

6	The maximum successful score	90.6%	91.2%
7	Maximum score of failed applications	83%	86.8%
8	Average grant fund value per project**	£283,441	£973,256
9	Average score of funded projects	85.4%	89%

* Applications are not broken down by stream until after it has been determined if they are eligible

** This is for successful projects only

Information in relation to question 10 the 'score distributions of the applications' is provided in the table below:

Score	Stream 1 (6-18 month projects)	Stream 2 (19-36 month projects)
<70%	489	44
70.1-75%	150	30
75.1-80%	143	26
80.1-85%	105	40
85.1-90%	30	12
90.1-95%	1	2
>95.1%	0	0
Total	918	154

Information in relation to question 11, the 'count of assessed applications by innovation area' and question 12, the 'count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand' is provided below:

Innovation Area	Stream 1 (6-18 month projects)		Stream 2 (19-36 month projects)	
	Total Applications	Successful Applications	Total Applications	Successful Applications
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	5	1	5	1
Advanced therapies	9	0	2	0
Aerospace	6	0	5	0
Agricultural productivity	17	2	4	1
Assembly / disassembly / joining	2	0	0	0
Biosciences	25	4	6	0
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	2	0	1	0
Chemical / bio processes	6	0	2	0
Composite materials	7	0	3	1
Connected and autonomous vehicles	1	0	0	0
Connected transport	6	0	2	0
Creative industries	45	7	3	0
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	34	5	8	0
Digital health	90	3	12	0
Digital industries	159	2	9	0
Digital manufacturing	5	1	0	0
Digital technology	156	7	18	1
Electronic materials and manufacturing	4	1	1	1
Electronics manufacturing	4	0	0	0
Electronics, sensors and photonics	5	0	2	0
Emerging technology	22	2	3	0
Energy – other	25	2	10	0
Energy and automotive	7	0	4	0

Energy efficiency	22	0	4	0
Energy systems	13	1	1	0
Enhancing food quality	11	2	2	0
Forming technologies	1	1	0	0
Independent living and wellbeing	12	1	2	0
Low carbon vehicles	8	0	2	0
Marine transport	5	0	2	0
Material recovery and treatment	8	0	2	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design	1	0	0	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	17	3	2	0
Metals / metallurgy	5	1	0	0
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	5	1	1	0
Non-metallics	1	1	0	0
Not specified	66	2	3	0
Nuclear fission	1	0	0	0
Offshore wind	5	0	0	0
Other transport	14	1	0	0
Polymers and plastics	4	0	3	0
Precision medicine	2	0	2	0
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	2	2	2	0
Rail transport	7	2	2	0
Resource efficiency	6	0	1	0
Robotics and autonomous systems	10	3	4	2
Satellite applications	1	0	0	0
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	1	0	1	0
Smart infrastructure	15	2	5	0
Space technology	3	0	0	0
Surface engineering	2	1	3	0
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	1	0	2	0
Sustainable materials	8	1	4	1
Therapeutic and medicine development	6	0	4	0
Urban living	13	1	0	0
Total	918	63	154	8

Information in relation to question 13, the 'count of assessed applications by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development)' and question 14, the 'count of successful projects by research category' is provided below:

Research Category	Stream 1 (6-18 month projects)		Stream 2 (19-36 month projects)	
	Total Applications	Successful Applications	Total Applications	Successful Applications
Experimental development	190	3	8	0
Feasibility studies	155	8	26	0
Industrial research	573	52	120	8
Total	918	63	154	8

Please note, the innovation area and research category of projects are not decision making factors when determining successful applications. The Smart Grant competitions do not give preference to any particular innovation area or research category over others.

With regard to question 15 of your request, the '*number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score*,' the Smart competition funds on a solely top-down basis split across the two streams. There are therefore no unsuccessful applications that scored above the minimum funded score in their stream.

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 or 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,


Information Governance
Information Rights Team
UK Research and Innovation
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