



Sent by email: [REDACTED]

20 March 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2025/00229

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 21 February in which you requested the following:

Your request:

For Innovate UK's Innovate UK Smart grants: July 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 attached.

Table 1: Questions 1 – 4:

Question	06-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total
1.The total number of submitted applications	1,870	264	2,134
2.The number of assessed applications	1,557	119	1676
3.The number of successful applications	41	3	44
4.The success rate	2.6%	2.5%	2.6%

Table 2: Questions 5 – 9:

Question	06-18 Months	19-24 Months
5. The minimum successful score	87.8	87.2
6. The maximum successful score	94.4	88.9
7. The maximum score of failed applications	87.2	86.7
8. Average grant fund value per project	£289,368.15	£721,278.67
9. Average score of funded projects	89.91	88.13

Table 3: Question 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)”*

Score ¹ Range	Number			Percentage		
	0-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total	0-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total
<=70	904	52	956	58.1%	43.7%	57.0%
70.1-75	243	30	273	15.6%	25.2%	16.3%
75.1-80	175	21	196	11.2%	17.6%	11.7%
80.1-85	161	8	169	10.3%	6.7%	10.1%
85.1-90	57	8	65	3.7%	6.7%	3.9%
90.1-95	17	0	17	1.1%	0.0%	1.0%
95.1-100	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	1,557	119	1,676	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

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

Innovation Area	06-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total number
Not Specified	63	3	66
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	5	0	5
Advanced therapies	12	1	13
Aerospace	5	0	5
Agricultural productivity	21	5	26
Assembly / disassembly / joining	3	0	3
Biosciences	34	10	44
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	1	1	2
Chemical / bio processes	11	1	12
Composite materials	7	3	10
Connected and autonomous vehicles	5	0	5
Connected transport	8	1	9
Creative industries	75	3	78
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	72	8	80
Digital health	162	9	171
Digital industries	358	9	367
Digital manufacturing	8	1	9
Digital technology	279	8	287
Electronic materials and manufacturing	4	0	4
Electronics manufacturing	8	0	8
Electronics, sensors and photonics	10	2	12
Emerging technology	57	7	64
Energy - other	37	7	44
Energy and automotive	5	1	6
Energy efficiency	34	4	38
Energy systems	18	1	19
Enhancing food quality	10	2	12
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	23	1	24
Low carbon vehicles	7	1	8
Marine transport	8	4	12
Material recovery and treatment	9	1	10
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	22	2	24
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	7	0	7
Nuclear fission	1	0	1
Offshore wind	7	0	7
Other transport	8	1	9
Polymers and plastics	5	0	5
Precision medicine	9	2	11
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	12	0	12
Rail transport	6	3	9
Resource efficiency	12	2	14
Robotics and autonomous systems	18	3	21
Satellite applications	6	0	6
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	3	0	3
Smart infrastructure	30	2	32
Space technology	1	0	1
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	3	0	3
Sustainable materials	21	9	30
Therapeutic and medicine development	12	0	12
Urban living	14	1	15
Grand Total	1,557	119	1,676

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

Innovation Area	06-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total number
Not Specified	1	0	1
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1	0	1
Advanced therapies	0	0	0
Aerospace	0	0	0
Agricultural productivity	0	0	0
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1	0	1
Biosciences	2	0	2
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	0	0	0
Chemical / bio processes	1	0	1
Composite materials	0	0	0
Connected and autonomous vehicles	0	0	0
Connected transport	0	0	0
Creative industries	3	0	3
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	4	0	4
Digital health	1	0	1
Digital industries	3	0	3
Digital manufacturing	0	0	0
Digital technology	4	0	4
Electronic materials and manufacturing	0	0	0
Electronics manufacturing	2	0	2
Electronics, sensors and photonics	1	1	2
Emerging technology	1	1	2
Energy - other	2	0	2
Energy and automotive	0	0	0
Energy efficiency	3	0	3
Energy systems	0	0	0
Enhancing food quality	1	0	1
Forming technologies	0	0	0
Independent living and wellbeing	0	0	0
Low carbon vehicles	0	0	0
Marine transport	1	0	1
Material recovery and treatment	2	0	2
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	3	0	3
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	0	0	0
Nuclear fission	0	0	0
Offshore wind	0	0	0
Other transport	0	0	0
Polymers and plastics	1	0	1
Precision medicine	0	0	0
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	1	0	1
Rail transport	0	0	0
Resource efficiency	0	0	0
Robotics and autonomous systems	0	0	0
Satellite applications	0	0	0
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	0	0	0
Smart infrastructure	0	0	0
Space technology	0	0	0
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	0	0	0
Sustainable materials	2	1	3
Therapeutic and medicine development	0	0	0
Urban living	0	0	0
Grand Total	41	3	44

Table 6: Question 13: “The count of assessed applications by research category (feasibility studies, industrial research, experimental development)”

Research Category	Smart Grants July 2024: 6 - 18 Months	Smart Grants July 2024: 19 - 24 Months	Grand Total
Experimental development	252	6	258
Feasibility studies	261	15	276
Industrial research	1,044	98	1,142
Grand Total	1,557	119	1,676

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

Research Category	Smart Grants July 2024: 6 - 18 Months	Smart Grants July 2024: 19 - 24 Months	Grand Total
Experimental development	3	0	3
Feasibility studies	2	0	2
Industrial research	36	3	39
Grand Total	41	3	44

Question 15: “The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score, please”

No applications that scored above the minimum funded score were deemed unsuccessful.

If you have any queries regarding our response, please do let us know. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, explaining which elements of this decision you disagree with and why.

Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of our response and should be addressed to:


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 procedure](#)¹.

Yours sincerely,


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

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