



11 May 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00217

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 19 April in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I would be very grateful if you could please provide the below information on the Innovate UK Smart Grants: October 2022 funding competition for both:

Stream 1 projects (6-18 months duration, eligible project costs between £100K-£500K), and Stream 2 projects (19-36 months duration, total eligible project costs between £100K-£2M).

The information I would like to request is as follows:

1. *The total number of applications submitted and*
 - a. *the number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding)*
2. *The overall number of applications awarded funding and*
 - a. *a breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications and*
 - b. *how many were resubmissions*
3. *The total number of applications within each innovation area and the number of those that were successful in each area*
4. *The average grant request and project size of the applications successfully awarded funding*
5. *The funding thresholds and average scores of successful applications*
6. *The percentages of successful applications that were Industrial Research and Experimental Development*
7. *The number of successful Industrial Research and Experimental Development projects that were (i) single applicant/partner, (ii) 2 partners, (iii) 3+ partner*
8. *The total funding allocated in this competition round*
9. *How many projects awarded went to project set up*

Our response

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold/holds some/do not hold any information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

	Stream 1 (6-18 months)	Stream 2 (19-36 months)	Notes
1. The total number of applications submitted.	Applications are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed. There were 902 applications submitted.		
1a. The number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding).	714	71	Total: 785
2. The overall number of applications awarded funding.	32	6	Total: 38

2a. A breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications.	29 were first time submissions	4 were first time submissions	
2b. How many were resubmissions.	3 resubmissions were successful	2 resubmissions were successful	

3. The total number of applications within each innovation area and the number of those that were successful in each area;

Stream 1 (6-18 months)

Innovation Area	Number of Assessed Applications	Number of Successful Applications
Advanced therapies	4	0
Aerospace	5	0
Agricultural productivity	13	1
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1	0
Biosciences	24	5
Chemical / bio processes	2	0
Composite materials	3	0
Connected and autonomous vehicles	2	0
Connected transport	5	0
Creative industries	23	0
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	36	3
Digital health	69	1
Digital industries	196	4
Digital manufacturing	6	0
Digital technology	102	7
Electronic materials and manufacturing	4	0
Electronics manufacturing	1	0
Electronics, sensors and photonics	5	1
Emerging technology	25	0
Energy - other	22	0
Energy and automotive	2	0
Energy efficiency	21	0
Energy systems	10	0
Enhancing food quality	5	1
Forming technologies	2	0
Independent living and wellbeing	5	1
Low carbon vehicles	3	0
Marine transport	3	0
Material recovery and treatment	4	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	7	0
Metals / metallurgy	1	0
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	2	0
Offshore wind	2	0
Other transport	1	0
Polymers and plastics	2	0
Precision medicine	2	0
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	4	3
Rail transport	2	0
Resource efficiency	9	0

Robotics and autonomous systems	9	0
Satellite applications	4	0
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	1	0
Smart infrastructure	13	0
Space technology	1	0
Sustainable materials	8	2
Therapeutic and medicine development	3	1
Urban living	8	0
Not Specified	32	2
Grand Total	714	32

Stream 2 (19-36 months)

Innovation Area	Number of Assessed Applications	Number of Successful Applications
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1	1
Agricultural productivity	4	0
Biosciences	4	0
Composite materials	1	0
Connected transport	1	0
Creative industries	4	0
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	8	0
Digital health	3	0
Digital industries	6	0
Digital technology	6	0
Electronics manufacturing	1	0
Emerging technology	1	0
Energy - other	3	0
Energy efficiency	1	0
Energy systems	1	0
Independent living and wellbeing	1	0
Low carbon vehicles	3	0
Material recovery and treatment	2	0
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	1	0
Metals / metallurgy	1	0
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	1	0
Offshore wind	1	1
Polymers and plastics	1	0
Resource efficiency	2	2
Robotics and autonomous systems	2	1
Smart infrastructure	3	0
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	1	0
Sustainable materials	2	1
Therapeutic and medicine development	1	0
Urban living	1	0
Not Specified	3	0
Grand Total	71	6

4. The average grant request and project size of the applications successfully awarded funding;

Stream 1 (6-18 months)

Average Grant Request: £317,379.00
Average Total Project Cost: £458,441.00

Stream 2 (19-36 months)

Average Grant Request: £817,520.00
Average Total Project Cost: £1,108,711.00

5. The funding thresholds and average scores of successful applications;

	Stream 1	Stream 2
Funding threshold	84.30%	80.70%
Average score of successful applications	86.97%	85.50%

6. The percentages of successful applications that were Industrial Research and Experimental Development

6-18 months

Research Category	Total
Experimental development	6.25%
Feasibility studies	12.50%
Industrial research	81.25%
Total Projects	32

19-36 months

Research Category	Total
Industrial research	100%
Total Projects	6

7. The number of successful Industrial Research and Experimental Development projects that were (i) single applicant/partner, (ii) 2 partners, (iii) 3+ partner;

Stream 1:

	Experimental development	Feasibility studies	Industrial research
Single applicant	1	3	19
Two Organisations	1	1	7
Three or more Organisations	0	0	0
Total	2	4	26

Stream 2:

	Experimental development	Industrial research
Single applicant	0	0
Two Organisations	0	3
Three or more Organisations	0	3
Total	0	6

As outlined in the eligibility section of the competition brief, projects in stream 2 must be collaborative, therefore there are no successful single partner applications. Projects can also be categorised as a feasibility study, which accounts for the difference in figures between the total number of successful applications and the data provided in Q6 and Q7.

8. The total funding allocated in this competition round;

As per the information provided in the [online competition brief](#)¹ this is up to £25M across both streams. The amount of funding awarded to each organisation will be published [as part of transparency data](#)² in due course.

9. How many projects awarded went to project set up

All 38 projects went to project set up.

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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¹ <https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/1330/overview/314566f0-6e69-4516-a0a2-31c9182c4a36>

² <https://www.ukri.org/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects-since-2004/>