



[Redacted]

11 February 2022

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00015

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 18 January in which you requested the following:

Your request:

How many funding applications does Innovate UK receive annually?

How many applications does SMART receive annually?

For applications that Innovate UK has funded, in the last three SMART rounds, could you please tell me the average total project size and success rates within each of the three research categories (feasibility studies, industrial research and experimental development)?

Our response

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

How many funding applications does Innovate UK receive annually?

Below are figures for applications submitted via Innovate UK's Innovation Funding Service (IFS) for the last 3 calendar years, based on the date the application was submitted:

Calendar Year - Submitted Date	Number of IFS Applications Submitted
2019	6993
2020	28091
2021	14204

In 2019 an additional 1326 applications were submitted through a legacy system which was in place at the time.

How many applications does SMART receive annually?

SMART does not run annually, however below is data for the last 3 rounds of SMART (which would be all rounds run in 2021):

Competition	Number of submitted applications
Smart January 2021	2617
Smart May 2021	1144
Smart August 2021	815

For applications that Innovate UK has funded, in the last three SMART rounds, could you please tell me the average total project size and success rates within each of the three research categories (feasibility studies, industrial research and experimental development)?

Below is the data for average total project size:

	Competition/average total project cost		
Research category	Smart January 2021	Smart May 2021	Smart August 2021
Feasibility study	£327,558.78	£328,169.70	£333,476.25
Industrial research	£506,363.70	£526,049.62	£464,623.71
Experimental development	£348,029.01	£347,404.66	£336,231.86

Below is the data for success rates within each of the three research categories:

	Competition/success rate		
Research category	Smart January 2021	Smart May 2021	Smart August 2021
Feasibility study	2.70%	2.70%	5.50%
Industrial research	3.95%	10.14%	14.13%
Experimental development	0.66%	1.94%	2.19%

Please note that research category is not considered when drawing the funding line, and SMART funds solely on a top down basis based on the scores provided by the independent assessors and split across the two streams as detailed in the online competition brief.

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,


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