UK Research and Innovation

6 November 2020

Dear ███████,

Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00371

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 2 November in which you requested the following:

Your request:

You have previously received a request from ████████ reference FOI2020/00197, for information about the Innovate UK Smart Grants competition of January 2020. At the time of your final response in July 2020, you did not have all the information requested available because the assessment process had not been completed. I would be grateful if you could now provide the information originally requested.

Please could you provide the following information in regard to the Smart Grants: January 2020 Competition:

1. *Total number of applications*
2. *Number of assessed applications (not disregarded due to being deemed out of scope etc)*
3. *Number of applications funded*
4. *Number of applications funded per 'innovation area'*
5. *Average funding amount per project*
6. *Smallest and largest amount of funding per project*
7. *Average score*
8. *Success threshold*
9. *Decision-making process based on portfolio (i.e. why higher scoring projects might not get funded and lower scoring project get funded).*

I believe it is in the public interest for this information to be published, ensuring that UKRI / Innovate UK are held accountable for their utilisation and allocation of public money.

Our response:

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

Please note that:

Stream 1: Projects 18 months or less in duration, with total project cost of £500k or less
Stream 2: Projects either over 18 months in duration and/or £500k project costs

1. *Total number of applications*

   There were 2,728 applications received for the Smart Grants: January 2020 competition, of which 288 were ineligible.

2. *Number of assessed applications (not disregarded due to being deemed out of scope etc)*

Stream	Number of Assessed Applications
Stream 1	2089
Stream 2	351
Total	2440

3. *Number of applications funded*

Stream	Number of Applications Funded
Stream 1	129
Stream 2	23
Total	152

4. *Number of applications funded per 'innovation area'*

Stream 1

Innovation Area	Number of Funded Applications
Advanced therapies	2
Agricultural productivity	2
Assembly / disassembly / joining	2
Biosciences	5
Chemical / bio processes	2
Composite materials	1
Connected and autonomous vehicles	1
Connected transport	1
Creative industries	9
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	11
Digital health	9
Digital industries	16
Digital technology	17
Electronics manufacturing	4
Electronics, sensors and photonics	1
Emerging technology	4
Energy - other	4
Energy efficiency	6
Energy systems	1
Enhancing food quality	1
Low carbon vehicles	1
Marine transport	1
Material recovery and treatment	2
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	2
Metals / metallurgy	1
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	2
Nuclear fission	1
Offshore wind	4

Polymers and plastics	3
Precision medicine	2
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	1
Resource efficiency	1
Robotics and autonomous systems	1
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	1
Smart infrastructure	1
Space technology	1
Therapeutic and medicine development	2
Urban living	1
Other/unspecified	2

Stream 2

Innovation Area	Number of Funded Applications
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	3
Biosciences	1
Chemical / bio processes	1
Composite materials	2
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	1
Digital health	1
Digital industries	1
Emerging technology	1
Energy efficiency	1
Enhancing food quality	1
Material recovery and treatment	1
Offshore wind	1
Resource efficiency	1
Robotics and autonomous systems	2
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	1
Smart infrastructure	1
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	1
Sustainable materials	1
Therapeutic and medicine development	1

5. *Average funding amount per project*

Stream	Average Funding per Project
Stream 1	£266,701
Stream 2	£707,714

6. *Smallest and largest amount of funding per project*

Stream	Smallest Funding Amount	Largest Funding Amount
Stream 1	£36,796	£394,606
Stream 2	£190,707	£1,339,668

7. *Average score*

Stream	Average score of funded projects
Stream 1	85.06%
Stream 2	86.8%

8. *Success threshold*

Stream	Lowest scoring funded project (success threshold)
Stream 1	82.6%
Stream 2	85%

9. *Decision-making process based on portfolio (i.e. why higher scoring projects might not get funded and lower scoring project get funded).*

The Smart Grants: January 2020 competition did not take a portfolio-based approach for funding. Funding was allocated from the highest scoring application, based on the scores provided by independent assessors, downwards until the funding had been depleted 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,

████████

Information Governance
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