



7 May 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00339**

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

**Your request:**

*For Innovate UK's Smart grants: September 2023 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 below.

**Table 1: Questions 1-9**

Question	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
<b>1. The number of applications.</b>	1,259	284	1,543
<b>2. The number of assessed applications.</b>	1,134	126	1,260
<b>3. The number of successful applications.</b> (Figures are based on 'successful' applications at the assessment stage, 'successful' applications are still subject to due diligence process and may not be funded)	62	6	68
<b>4. The success rate.</b>	5.5%	4.8%	5.4%
<b>5. The minimum successful score.</b>	84.4	86.1	86.1
<b>6. The maximum successful score.</b>	92.8	87.8	92.8

<b>7. Maximum score of failed applications.</b> (All scores are the written assessment scores and are given as percentages)	83.90	85.60	85.6
<b>8. Average grant fund value per project.</b> (Average value of funding sought for 'successful' applications at the assessment stage)	£301,728.89	£797,203.67	£345,447.25
<b>9. Average score of funded projects.</b>	87.14	86.87	87.12

**Table 2: 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 Range	Stream 1: 6-18 Months		Stream 2: 19-36 Months		Total	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
<=70	596	52.6%	42	33.3%	638	50.6%
70.1-75	186	16.4%	24	19.0%	210	16.7%
75.1-80	190	16.8%	28	22.2%	218	17.3%
80.1-85	113	10.0%	23	18.3%	136	10.8%
85.1-90	44	3.9%	9	7.1%	53	4.2%
90.1-95	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	5	0.4%
95.1-100	0.0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 3: Question 11 – The count of assessed projects by innovation area for each strand.**

Innovation Area	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	4	1	5
Advanced therapies	4	0	4
Aerospace	6	0	6
Agricultural productivity	10	5	15
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1	0	1
Biosciences	29	8	37
Ceramic / electronic / functional materials	0	1	1
Chemical / bio processes	10	5	15
Composite materials	7	4	11
Connected and autonomous vehicles	4	1	5
Connected transport	5	1	6
Creative industries	49	3	52
Diagnostics, medical technology, and devices	49	12	61
Digital health	103	10	113
Digital industries	308	4	312
Digital manufacturing	7	0	7
Digital technology	196	6	202
Electronic materials and manufacturing	4	0	4
Electronics manufacturing	2	0	2
Electronics, sensors and photonics	10	1	11
Emerging technology	53	6	59
Energy - other	15	3	18
Energy and automotive	7	0	7
Energy efficiency	25	5	30
Energy systems	17	5	22
Enhancing food quality	7	0	7
Forming technologies	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	11	0	11
Low carbon vehicles	13	1	14
Marine transport	2	0	2
Material recovery and treatment	10	4	14
Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	21	2	23

Metals / metallurgy	0	1	1
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	4	0	4
Not specified	52	5	57
Offshore wind	4	1	5
Other transport	7	5	12
Polymers and plastics	4	2	6
Precision medicine	2	1	3
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	4	2	6
Rail transport	9	3	12
Resource efficiency	9	8	17
Robotics and autonomous systems	10	2	12
Satellite applications	3	0	3
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	2	0	2
Smart infrastructure	8	2	10
Surface engineering	3	0	3
Surface engineering, coatings, and thin films	1	0	1
Sustainable materials	5	2	7
Therapeutic and medicine development	4	2	6
Urban living	13	2	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1,260</b>

**Table 4: Question 12 – The count of successful applications by innovation area**

Innovation Area	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
Advanced therapies	1	0	1
Agricultural productivity	0	1	1
Chemical / bio processes	1	1	2
Composite materials	2	0	2
Creative industries	7	1	8
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	8	2	10
Digital health	2	0	2
Digital industries	18	0	18
Digital technology	5	0	5
Electronics manufacturing	1	0	1
Electronics, sensors and photonics	1	0	1
Emerging technology	4	0	4
Energy - other	1	0	1
Energy efficiency	1	0	1
Energy systems	1	0	1
Enhancing food quality	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	1	0	1
Material recovery and treatment	2	1	3
Not specified	5	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>68</b>

**Table 5: Question 13 – The count of assessed applications by research category.**

Research Categories	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
Experimental development	151	8	159
Feasibility studies	140	14	154
Industrial research	843	104	947
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>1,260</b>

**Table 6: Question 14 – The count of successful projects by research category**

Research Category	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
Experimental development	2	2	4
Feasibility studies	3	1	4
Industrial research	57	3	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>68</b>

**Table 7: Question 15 – The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.**

Question	Stream 1: 6-18 Months	Stream 2: 19-36 Months	Total
15. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score*	0	0	0

\*The number of unsuccessful applications with a score greater than or equal to the minimum score of successful applications

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](mailto: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](http://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,

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