



8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00610**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 14 August 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: January 2023] competition for both:*

- 1. Stream 1 projects (6-18 months duration, eligible project costs between £100K-£500K), and;*
- 2. 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 the number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding);*
- 2. The overall number of applications awarded funding and a breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications and 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 information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

|  | 6-18 months   | 19-36 months                                 | Total                      |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| <b>1. The total number of applications submitted</b>   | Applications are not divided by stream prior to eligibility checks being completed. There were 1716 applications submitted. |  |                            |
| <b>1a. The number of those that were assessed (i.e. deemed eligible for funding)</b>                     | 1352  | 141  | 1493                       |
| <b>2. The overall number of applications awarded funding</b>   | 41  | 5  | 46                         |
| <b>2a. A breakdown of how many of these were first-time applications and how many were resubmissions</b> | First time application: 32  | First time application: 3<br>Resubmission: 2 | First time application: 35 |

|  |   |  |                  |
|--|---|--|------------------|
|  | Resubmission: 9   |  | Resubmission: 11 |
| <b>3. The total number of applications within each innovation area and the number of those that were successful in each area</b> | This has been answered below.                               |  |                  |
| <b>4. The average grant request and project size of the applications successfully awarded funding</b>                            | £282,624.00   | £692,734.00  | £327,201.00      |
|  | £412,265.71   | £1,274,362.80  | £843,314.25      |
| <b>5. The funding thresholds of successful applications.</b>   | 85.7%   | 88%  |                  |
| <b>5a. The average scores of successful applications</b>   | 87.5%   | 89.2%  |                  |
| <b>6. The percentages of successful applications that were Industrial Research and Experimental Development</b>                  | Industrial Research = 88%<br>Experimental Development = 10% | Industrial Research = 80%<br>Experimental Development = 20 % |                  |

For question 6, applications can also be classified as Feasibility studies, which accounts for the total not equalling 100%.

### 3. The total number of applications within each innovation area

| Innovation Area                             | 6-18 months | 19-36 months | Total number |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Blank                                       | 55          | 5            | 60           |
| Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)          | 7           | 4            | 11           |
| Advanced therapies                          | 6           | 2            | 8            |
| Aerospace                                   | 6           | 2            | 8            |
| Agricultural productivity                   | 12          | 6            | 18           |
| Biosciences                                 | 31          | 6            | 37           |
| Ceramic / electronic / functional materials | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Chemical / bio processes                    | 6           | 0            | 6            |
| Composite materials                         | 3           | 2            | 5            |
| Connected and autonomous vehicles           | 5           | 0            | 5            |
| Connected transport                         | 14          | 1            | 15           |
| Creative industries                         | 67          | 7            | 74           |
| Diagnostics, medical technology and devices | 50          | 3            | 53           |
| Digital health                              | 135         | 11           | 146          |
| Digital industries                          | 429         | 7            | 436          |
| Digital manufacturing                       | 7           | 1            | 8            |
| Digital technology                          | 198         | 13           | 211          |
| Electronic materials and manufacturing      | 4           | 0            | 4            |
| Electronics manufacturing                   | 1           | 2            | 3            |
| Electronics, sensors and photonics          | 5           | 0            | 5            |
| Emerging technology                         | 44          | 10           | 54           |
| Energy - other                              | 31          | 4            | 35           |
| Energy and automotive                       | 6           | 3            | 9            |
| Energy efficiency                           | 27          | 4            | 31           |
| Energy systems                              | 13          | 3            | 16           |
| Enhancing food quality                      | 9           | 2            | 11           |

|  |             |            |             |
|--|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Forming technologies                                     | 0           | 1          | 1           |
| Independent living and wellbeing                         | 8           | 0          | 8           |
| Low carbon vehicles                                      | 15          | 7          | 22          |
| Marine transport   | 5           | 0          | 5           |
| Material recovery and treatment                          | 7           | 4          | 11          |
| Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies | 14          | 5          | 19          |
| Metals / metallurgy                                      | 2           | 1          | 3           |
| Nanotechnology / nanomaterials                           | 7           | 1          | 8           |
| Nuclear fission  | 1           | 0          | 1           |
| Offshore wind  | 6           | 2          | 8           |
| Other transport  | 10          | 0          | 10          |
| Polymers and plastics                                    | 4           | 2          | 6           |
| Precision medicine                                       | 2           | 1          | 3           |
| Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery       | 8           | 0          | 8           |
| Rail transport   | 4           | 1          | 5           |
| Resource efficiency                                      | 19          | 2          | 21          |
| Robotics and autonomous systems                          | 20          | 2          | 22          |
| Satellite applications                                   | 3           | 0          | 3           |
| Sensor and instrument design or manufacture              | 4           | 4          | 8           |
| Smart infrastructure                                     | 11          | 2          | 13          |
| Space technology   | 0           | 1          | 1           |
| Surface engineering                                      | 2           | 0          | 2           |
| Surface engineering, coatings and thin films             | 2           | 2          | 4           |
| Sustainable materials                                    | 7           | 4          | 11          |
| Therapeutic and medicine development                     | 6           | 1          | 7           |
| Urban living   | 13          | 0          | 13          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                       | <b>1352</b> | <b>141</b> | <b>1493</b> |

### 3a. The number of those that were successful in each area

| Innovation Area                             | 6-18 months | 19-36 months | Total number |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Blank                                       | 2           | 0            | 2            |
| Biosciences                                 | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Ceramic / electronic / functional materials | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Chemical / bio processes                    | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Composite materials                         | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Connected transport                         | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Creative industries                         | 2           | 0            | 2            |
| Diagnostics, medical technology and devices | 3           | 0            | 3            |
| Digital health                              | 2           | 0            | 2            |
| Digital industries                          | 9           | 0            | 9            |
| Digital manufacturing                       | 2           | 0            | 2            |
| Digital technology                          | 5           | 1            | 6            |
| Electronic materials and manufacturing      | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Emerging technology                         | 1           | 0            | 1            |
| Energy - other                              | 2           | 1            | 3            |
| Energy systems                              | 1           | 0            | 1            |

|  |           |          |           |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies | 0         | 1        | 1         |
| Metals / metallurgy                                      | 1         | 0        | 1         |
| Nanotechnology / nanomaterials                           | 0         | 1        | 1         |
| Resource efficiency                                      | 2         | 0        | 2         |
| Sustainable materials                                    | 2         | 1        | 3         |
| Therapeutic and medicine development                     | 1         | 0        | 1         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                                       | <b>41</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>46</b> |

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

| Number of Partners  | 6-18 months                |                     |              |           | 19-36 months               |                     |             |          |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------|
|                     | Experi-mental de-velopment | Industrial research | Feasibil-ity | Total     | Experi-mental de-velopment | Industrial research | Feasibility | Total    |
| 1                   | 3                          | 30                  | 0            | <b>33</b> | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| 2                   | 1                          | 5                   | 0            | <b>6</b>  | 1                          | 2                   | 0           | <b>3</b> |
| 3                   | 0                          | 1                   | 0            | <b>1</b>  | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| 4                   | 0                          | 0                   | 1            | <b>1</b>  | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| 5                   | 0                          | 0                   | 0            | <b>0</b>  | 0                          | 1                   | 0           | <b>1</b> |
| 6                   | 0                          | 0                   | 0            | <b>0</b>  | 0                          | 1                   | 0           | <b>1</b> |
| 7                   | 0                          | 0                   | 0            | <b>0</b>  | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| 8                   | 0                          | 0                   | 0            | <b>0</b>  | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| 10                  | 0                          | 0                   | 0            | <b>0</b>  | 0                          | 0                   | 0           | <b>0</b> |
| <b>Grand To-tal</b> | <b>4</b>                   | <b>36</b>           | <b>1</b>     | <b>41</b> | <b>1</b>                   | <b>4</b>            | <b>0</b>    | <b>5</b> |

**8. The total funding allocated in this competition round**

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

**9. How many projects awarded went to project set up.**

All 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](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,

[REDACTED]

Information Governance  
Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
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