



[REDACTED]

13 July 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00368

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

Your request:

I am requesting under the Freedom of Information act the following, to aid with my understanding of the current process for assessing and determining a project's suitability for funding with regards to the Biomedical Catalyst 2023 Round 1: Industry-led R&D competition [opened 4/01/2023 and closed 1/03/2023] for projects with requested overall grant of over £500,000:

[1] the scoring criteria / assessment matrix for the assessment of projects in the interview stage of the competition, used by the interview panels,

[2] the training documentation provided to the panel members conducting the interviews,

[3] if existing, the pool / bank of interview questions provided to the panel members.

If information relating to 2023 Round 1 is not available due to recently conducted interviews, information from a previous closed round (2022 Round 1 or Round 2) will likely work.

Our response

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) holds some information relevant to your request. Please see the information attached as 'FOI2023/00368 Interview Panel guidance for assessors'.

We can confirm that UKRI holds information in scope of part 1 of your request for the 'scoring criteria/assessment matrix' used by interview panels which we are providing to you as the document 'FOI2023/00368 Interview Panel guidance for assessors'.

Regarding part 2 of your request there is no specific training documentation for panellists aside from the attached document.

In relation to part 3 of your request, independent assessors are expected to generate their own opinions based on the interview and their own expertise. They are therefore expected to form their own line of questioning and UKRI does not provide interview questions to panel members. As a result, this information is not held.

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

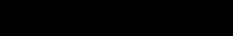
Email: foi@ukri.org

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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UK Research and Innovation
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