

[REDACTED]

05 February 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2021/00013

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 14 January in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Could you please provide me with some more information on the recently announced Innovate UK Edge program?

- *How much funding is there for the Edge programme in 2021 and over each of next 5 years?*
- *How much was previously spent on the EEN funding per annum?*
- *How many Scale up Directors are there and who are they?*
- *Who sits on the Scale up Delivery Board and who are they?*
- *How many companies do you expect to support in 2021?*
- *What has been the outcome of the first 30 companies selected for the EEN scale up programme in 2018– in particular how many met the growth targets set*

Our response

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please find each of your questions addressed in turn below.

How much funding is there for the Edge programme in 2021 and over each of next 5 years?

Innovate UK EDGE is the new umbrella identity for Innovate UK's growth and scale support for innovative companies, it builds on and incorporates support that to date has been provided through the Innovate UK Enterprise Europe Network, England, Northern Ireland and Wales Consortium.

The funding for 2021 is £37m which includes £5.9m from the EU (funding ceases December 2021) and £22.7m to support businesses impacted by COVID which was part of the [£1.25 billion government support package](#)¹ announced by the Chancellor in April 2020 and runs to March 2022.

Future funding for the Innovate UK EDGE service is dependent on the outcome of the Government's spending review.

How much was previously spent on the EEN funding per annum?

For the period 2015-2021 EEN in the UK is 60% funded by the EU and 40% by Innovate UK covering England, Northern Ireland and Wales and by Scottish Enterprise in Scotland. Per Annum amounts have varied depending on the exact mix of work carried out but averaged £12.4M (excluding Scotland).

How many Scale up Directors are there and who are they?

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/billion-pound-support-package-for-innovative-firms-hit-by-coronavirus>

There are 21 Scale Up Directors which represent 12.5 Full Time Equivalent. The Scale Up Directors are people with a strong business background and are employees of the Innovate UK EEN England Northern Ireland and Wales Consortium Partners. The names of these individuals are being withheld under Section 40(2) of the FOIA; further explanation regarding this exemption is provided below.

Who sits on the Scale up Delivery Board and who are they?

The board is made up of the 21 Scaleup Directors providing a matrix of skills and experience. In addition, the Board includes the Head of Business Growth and the Head of Global Innovation Partnerships, Innovate UK. The names of these individuals are being withheld under Section 40(2) of the FOIA; further explanation regarding this exemption is provided below.

How many companies do you expect to support in 2021?

We expect to support c.100 companies in 2021

What has been the outcome of the first 30 companies selected for the EEN scale up programme in 2018 – in particular how many met the growth targets set?

30 companies were selected for the EEN scale up programme in 2018. (2 companies are no longer part of the programme). The outcomes, based on end of the year abbreviated accounts published by the beneficiaries for the financial year 2018 and 2019, are as follows:

- Average Jobs created per company in for the period 2017 to 2019 – 9 New Jobs
- Total Jobs created by the 28 companies for the period 2017 to 2019 – 239 New Jobs
- Average retained earnings per company for the period 2017 to 2019 – circa £744k
- Total retained earnings for the period 2017 to 2019 – circa £21M
- Average increase in retained earnings for the period 2017 to 2019 – 188% growth
- In the financial year 2018 and 2019, 16 of the 28 companies had a consecutive growth of over 20% for the two years and of these, 12 companies a consecutive growth of over 100% for the two years.

Please note, not all companies had published abbreviated accounts for the financial year 2018 and 2019. The programme growth targets have been set for a period of 3 to 5 years after the completion of the programme and are only indicative of growth aspirations at the start of the programme.

Section 40(2) – Personal Information

The names of the Scale Up Directors and Scale Up delivery Board have been withheld under section 40(2) of the FOIA. Disclosing this information would contravene the first Data Protection Principle as defined under Section 86 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 5 of EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)2016.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test

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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