

Sent by email: [REDACTED]

1 August 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00612

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 5 July in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Please answer the following requests: For Smart Grants January 2024, by stream:

1. The total number of submitted 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. the score distributions of the applications (e.g. % (or number) of applications which scored <70, 71-75, 76-80, 81-85, 86+)
10. the count of applications by innovation area
11. the count of successful projects by innovation area
12. The number of successful projects that were a consortium of 2 partners
13. The number of successful projects that were a consortium of 3+ partners
14. The number of successful projects which included a university or research partner
15. The number of applications which included a university or research partner
16. the number of 1) applications and 2) successful projects with total project cost within £100k increments
17. the number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score, please.

Our response

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold/holds some/do not hold any information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

Table 1 – Questions 1-8

Question	6-18 Months	19-24 Months	Total
1. The total number of submitted applications	1,677	234	1,911
2. The number of assessed applications.	1,465	109	1,574
3. The number of successful applications.	41	5	46
4. The success rate.	2.8%	4.6%	2.9%
5. The minimum successful score.	86.1	87.8	N/A
6. The maximum successful score.	92.8	91.0	N/A
7. Maximum score of failed applications. ¹	85.6	86.7	N/A
8. Average grant fund value per project. ²	£302,913.12	£613,084.20	£336,627.37

¹ All scores are the written assessment scores and are given as percentages.

² Average value of funding sought for 'successful' applications at the assessment stage

Table 2 – Question 9. 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 ¹ Range	Number			Percentage		
	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
<=70	855	44	899	58.4%	40.4%	57.1%
70.1-75	245	26	271	16.7%	23.9%	17.2%
75.1-80	181	17	198	12.4%	15.6%	12.6%
80.1-85	132	13	145	9.0%	11.9%	9.2%
85.1-90	49	8	57	3.3%	7.3%	3.6%
90.1-95	3	1	4	0.2%	0.9%	0.3%
95.1-100	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	1,465	109	1,574	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹ All scores are the written assessment scores and are given as percentages.

Table 3 – Question 10. The count of assessed applications by innovation area.

Innovation Area	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
Not Specified	54	4	58
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	2	1	3
Advanced therapies	7	3	10
Aerospace	7	2	9
Agricultural productivity	18	6	24
Assembly / disassembly / joining	1	2	3
Biosciences	31	8	39
Chemical / bio processes	11	1	12
Composite materials	4	0	4
Connected and autonomous vehicles	6	1	7
Connected transport	9	3	12
Creative industries	78	2	80
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	55	9	64
Digital health	142	12	154
Digital industries	342	2	344
Digital manufacturing	11	1	12
Digital technology	243	3	246
Electronic materials and manufacturing	2	0	2
Electronics manufacturing	6	1	7
Electronics, sensors and photonics	12	2	14
Emerging technology	69	5	74
Energy - other	24	2	26
Energy and automotive	4	1	5
Energy efficiency	27	3	30
Energy systems	22	2	24
Enhancing food quality	9	0	9
Independent living and wellbeing	23	0	23
Low carbon vehicles	9	0	9
Marine transport	6	1	7
Material recovery and treatment	14	4	18

Materials, process and manufacturing design technologies	18	1	19
Metals / metallurgy	3	1	4
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	10	0	10
Non-metallics	1	0	1
Nuclear fission	0	1	1
Offshore wind	4	0	4
Other transport	11	0	11
Polymers and plastics	5	3	8
Precision medicine	11	0	11
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	12	0	12
Rail transport	3	0	3
Resource efficiency	20	3	23
Robotics and autonomous systems	18	2	20
Satellite applications	6	1	7
Sensor and instrument design or manufacture	4	1	5
Smart infrastructure	43	5	48
Space technology	1	0	1
Surface engineering	3	1	4
Surface engineering, coatings and thin films	3	0	3
Sustainable materials	9	6	15
Therapeutic and medicine development	14	2	16
Urban living	18	1	19
Grand Total	1,465	109	1,574

Table 4 - Question 11. The count of successful projects by innovation area for each strand

Innovation Area	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
Additive layer manufacturing (ALM)	1	1	2
Aerospace	1	0	1
Agricultural productivity	1		1
Assembly / disassembly / joining	0	1	1
Biosciences	2	1	3
Chemical / bio processes	1	0	1
Connected and autonomous vehicles	1	0	1
Creative industries	3	0	3
Diagnostics, medical technology and devices	4	0	4
Digital health	1	0	1
Digital industries	7	0	7
Digital technology	5	0	5
Energy systems	1	0	1
Independent living and wellbeing	1	0	1
Material recovery and treatment	1	0	1
Nanotechnology / nanomaterials	1	0	1
Polymers and plastics	1	1	2
Precision medicine	1	0	1
Preclinical technologies and drug target discovery	1	0	1
Resource efficiency	1	0	1
Robotics and autonomous systems	2	0	2
Smart infrastructure	1	0	1
Surface engineering	1	0	1

Sustainable materials	1	1	2
Therapeutic and medicine development	1	0	1
Grand Total	41	5	46

Table 5 – Question 12-15

People per project	Number with Universities			Number with Businesses			Count of IFS Application ID		
	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total Count	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total Count	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total Count
1	0	0	0	1,342	0	1,342	1,342	0	1,342
2	38	32	70	149	91	240	99	68	167
3	20	16	36	32	45	77	18	23	41
4	8	8	16	16	31	47	6	10	16
5	0	7	7	0	19	19	0	6	6
6	0	2	2	0	8	8	0	2	2
Grand Total	66	65	131	1,539	194	1,733	1,465	109	1,574

Table 6 – Question 16. The number of 1) applications and 2) successful projects with total project cost within £100k increments³

Status	ACCEPTED			REJECTED		
Project cost range	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total	6-18 Months	19-36 Months	Total
£100k to £200k	1	0	1	176	1	178
£200k to £300k	2	0	2	214	3	219
£300k to £400k	9	0	9	273	3	285
£400k to £500k	29	0	29	739	6	774
£500k to £600k	0	0	0	22	3	25
£600k to £700k	0	1	1	0	4	5
£700k to £800k	0	0	0	0	8	8
£800k to £900k	0	1	1	0	17	18
£900k to £1m	0	3	3	0	57	60
£1m or more	0	0	0	0	2	2
Grand Total	41	5	46	1,424	104	1,574

³ Figures are based on 'successful' applications at the assessment stage, 'successful' applications are still subject to due diligence process and may not be funded

Table 7 – Question 17. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.

Question	6-18 Months	19-24 Months
17. The number of unsuccessful applications, if any, which scored above the minimum funded score.⁴	0	0

⁴ 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

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](#)¹.

Yours sincerely,


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

¹ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>