



6 December 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/01096

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

Your request:

1. *A list of the AHRC grant funding awards to Black (ethnicity) Principal Investigators between 2015-2024 (or the most recent award data available).*
2. *A list of the AHRC grant funding awards to Black (ethnicity) Principal Investigators between 2015-2024 by award rate value (highest to lowest).*

Our response:

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) holds information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

We are exempting the information you have requested 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 UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) of lawfulness, fairness and transparency.

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

To explain further, to provide the information you have requested, when combined with information already publicly available on successful grant applications from [UKRI's Gateway to Research](#)¹, would identify the Principal Investigator (PI) of each grant. Subsequently, this would also reveal the PI's ethnicity which is a protected characteristic.

We also believe that to provide anonymised data on the award value would make it possible to identify individual grants and therefore the ethnicity of individuals.

UKRI publish diversity data on the personal characteristics of applicants and awardees to aid transparency in our funding and to enable high-level monitoring of trends. Further information on this is available [here](#)². A further breakdown of our diversity data is provided in an [EDI Funding Data Tableau dashboard](#)³, which includes the ability to filter data by research council, ethnicity and year.

Please note that in these reports, as per the 'notes and sources' tab, results are suppressed for groups with 1 to 4 members and these values are not shown in the dashboard. Counts of 0 are shown and counts 5 or more are rounded to the nearest multiple of five. Award values are rounded to the nearest £1,000. Proportions and award rates are calculated based on unrounded numbers and rounded to the nearest 1%.

¹ <https://gtr.ukri.org/>

² <https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-equalities-monitoring/ukri-equalities-monitoring-2021-to-2022/>

³ https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/uk_research_and_innovation.ukri/viz/EDIFundingdata2021-22/Summary

If you have any queries regarding our response please do let us know. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, explaining which elements of this decision you disagree with and why. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of our response and should be addressed to:

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 procedure](#)⁴.

Yours sincerely,


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

⁴ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>