



[REDACTED]

06 March 2020

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Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00028

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 31 January in which you requested the following:

Your request:

"This freedom of information request concerns the degree of direct funding to the NERC and EPSRC from the coal, oil and gas sector. "The last year" may be defined as the financial or calendar year, it's up to you. "In Kind" contributions are often made, but I'm only interested in direct financial contributions here.

- 1) How much funding did the two research councils receive directly from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year.*
- 2) How much direct funding did the "NERC Centre For Doctoral Training in Oil and Gas" receive from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year.*
- 3) What is the total monetary value of NERC CASE studentship contributions from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year."*

Our response

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold the information relevant to your request. Please see the information you have requested below.

- 1) How much funding did the two research councils receive directly from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year.*

I can confirm that NERC and EPSRC received zero funding from the coal, oil and gas sector. To explain further, UKRI (which is comprised of the seven research councils, Innovate UK and Research England) is funded directly by the Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Although NERC and EPSRC may have schemes in which they co-fund with the coal, oil and gas sector, the funds are provided directly to the recipient and do not go through NERC or EPSRC.

NERC institutes receive an income from the coal, oil and gas sector, however this is in exchange for goods and services and is thus was not deemed within the scope of your request for direct financial contributions.

- 2) How much direct funding did the "NERC Centre For Doctoral Training in Oil and Gas" receive from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year.*

The NERC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Oil and Gas are funded through BEIS, no private sector funds flow through NERC to the CDTs.

3) *What is the total monetary value of NERC CASE studentship contributions from the coal, oil and gas sector over the last year.*”

NERC does not receive any direct financial contributions for these studentships. As part of a CASE studentship, non-academic partners make a financial contribution towards the studentship but these funds are transferred directly to the institution where the student is based or to the Doctoral Training Partnership/Centre for Doctoral Training.

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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