

10 July 2020

Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00183

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 23 June in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I'm looking for data on the number of research projects that have had been terminated early (i.e. stopped before they were scheduled to finish) in the last 5 years and 10 years.

Please also let me know how many projects there were funded during this period total so that there is some context. For example, 10 projects funded and 1 terminated early (or 10% terminated early) between XXXX-XXXX yrs. The information was requested from the Economic and Social Research Council.

Our response:

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

For the data below, we have defined “ended early” as any grant that finished more than one month before their expected end date. There were six grants that finished a few days early, which does not indicate any actual change in plan for the Principle Investigator; these have been excluded from the ended early totals. Grants that ended and were then re-announced because the Principle Investigator moved to a different organisation have also been excluded.

The “Total Count Authorised” is the number of grants announced in that financial year, with the financial year running from 1st April to 31st March. The number of “Authorised Grants Ended Early” is based upon the year in which the grant was originally announced, not the year in which the grant was terminated.

Please be aware that the information presented prior to FY 2012/2013 should be considered as being less accurate, due to a change in the way the data was collated.

FY Authorised	Total Count Authorised	Authorised Grants Ended Early	% Ended Early
2019/2020	396	4	1.01%
2018/2019	489	4	0.82%
2017/2018	277	3	1.08%
2016/2017	336	3	0.89%
2014/2015	375	4	1.07%
2013/2014	373	11	2.95%
2012/2013	461	3	0.65%
2011/2012	366	4	1.09%
2010/2011	419	8	1.91%
2009/2010	505	24	4.75%

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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