



[REDACTED]

24 April 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2025/01116

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 16 December, and clarification received on the 10 February, in which you requested the following:

Your request:

All recorded information held by UKRI / Innovate UK relating to grants, loans and fiscal support and assistance provided directly and indirectly to Rolls-Royce PLC or its affiliated entities for aerospace-related activities (including for research and development, testing, manufacturing, or export-related support). In particular, information concerning subsidies or any support related to the Rolls-Royce UltraFan programme.

Time Period: 1 May 2021 – Present

CATEGORIES OF SUPPORT REQUESTED

- *Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) Programme grants under the Industrial Strategy*
- *Innovate UK grant awards for civil aerospace projects*
- *Co-funded R&D projects under the Aerospace Growth Partnership*
- *Any other direct or indirect financial assistance or incentives granted to Rolls-Royce PLC or its affiliated entities for aerospace-related activities*

SPECIFIC DOCUMENTS REQUESTED

1. Approval/Award Documentation

- *Ministerial decision letters or authority board approvals*
- *Grant offer letters or guarantee commitment documents*
- *Signed funding agreements or contracts*

2. Subsidy Control Act Compliance

- *Subsidy Control Act 2022 assessment (Sections 52–58) if conducted*
- *Economic rationale and public policy objective statements*
- *Proportionality and necessity analysis*

3. Financial Details

- *Total committed amount*
- *Amount disbursed to date*
- *Valuation methodology for support*

Your clarification:

Thank you for your email, and for the opportunity to provide clarifications.

1. Question 3.3: Valuation methodology for support

By 'valuation methodology for support,' we are seeking only recorded project-specific information explaining how the Department quantified the financial contribution or benefit associated with the relevant measure(s) of support to Rolls-Royce plc (or the relevant beneficiary entity).

This includes:

- i. Any documentation setting out how the nominal amount of the grant, loan, guarantee, tax measure or other financial assistance was determined (for example, business cases, internal submissions, or value-for-money analyses), including any use of discount rates, expected loss modelling, or other relevant quantification methods.
- ii. Any recorded comparison with market terms (e.g. interest rates, guarantee premia, collateral, expected return on investment), insofar as such analysis was used to assess whether the measure conferred an economic advantage.
- iii. For guarantees or contingent instruments, any methodology used to estimate maximum exposure, probability of default, or expected loss.
- iv. For tax measures, any methodology used to estimate the value of tax foregone.

We are requesting project-level documentation that shows how the value of the support was calculated and assessed in relation to the measure(s) in scope.

2. Affiliated Entities

In addition to Rolls-Royce plc, we request searches for:

- i. Rolls-Royce Holdings plc
- ii. Rolls-Royce Civil Aerospace Limited
- iii. Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG
- iv. Rolls-Royce North America Inc.

If support was granted to a specific special purpose vehicle (SPV) or subsidiary for a defined project, we would be grateful if searches could also capture that entity, insofar as it formed part of the same support measure.

Our response:

We can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) may hold some information relevant to your request. However, we are unable to confirm precisely what is held, as determining this would require locating, retrieving and extracting information at a cost that would exceed the limit set out in section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. For UKRI, this limit is set at £450, which represents the estimated cost of 18 hours of staff resource.

Due to the broad scope of your request, and the number of individual funding grants it would encompass, fulfilling the request would require extensive searches across multiple systems and locations. Information already publicly available from [Innovate UK \(IUK\)'s transparency data](https://www.ukri.org/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects-since-2004/)¹ identifies 39 project grants awarded to Rolls-Royce that began after 1 May 2021. Furthermore, an additional 54 projects were already in progress on this date.

In order to determine whether these grants are relevant to aerospace activities, and review each project to determine what is held in relation to your request, it is estimated that it would take a minimum of 1.5 hours per grant. Therefore, even based on the most conservative estimates, completing all required searches would far exceed the statutory limit of 18 hours.

¹ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects-since-2004/>

This time does not take into account any additional searches that would need to be conducted to determine whether any other form of fiscal support was provided to Rolls-Royce within this period.

Although UKRI is not obliged under section 12 of the FOIA to respond to your request, we would like to offer some additional information to provide advice and assistance as to how you could narrow your request and not engage the section 12 exemption.

You may wish to consider the following points:

- As noted above, [IUK's transparency data](#)² offers details of grant funding provided to Rolls-Royce by IUK (funded organisation can be filtered in the 'Participant Name' column). It is then possible to filter further by additional information such as competition or programme title, project title, public description and project start date. The scope of your request could be focused to specific grants that are of particular interest.
- Some of the information you have requested, including total committed amount ('Award Offered' column) and amount dispersed to date ('Actual Spend to Date' column) is already available from this data and is therefore exempt from disclosure under section 21 of the FOIA, information already reasonably accessible. Further details of this exemption are included below.
- Grants awarded under the Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) Programme are noted on the transparency data ('Competition Title' column). We have also included a list of these grants in Annex 1, at the end of this response. These have been split by portfolio to enable you to identify which are relevant to the UltraFan programme.
- UltraFan development is also [being supported by Horizon Europe](#)³. Grants funded under the Clean Aviation Programme are most likely to be relevant to UltraFan, however it should be noted that IUK, UKRI and UK Government Departments and Ministers had no role in deciding on whether these projects were funded and therefore the documents you are seeking may not be held by UKRI. More details about specific Horizon Europe grants are publicly available from [Cordis](#)⁴ and more information on the Horizon Europe Guarantee is available [here](#)⁵.
- IUK do not disperse funding for the Aerospace Growth Partnership.
- The Subsidy Control Act 2022 (SCA22) came into effect on 4 January 2023, so any assessments against the seven principles outlined in the SCA22 would not have been conducted prior to that date. Furthermore, sections 52-58 of the SCA22 relate to mandatory and voluntary referrals to the Subsidy Advice Unit (SAU), and IUK have confirmed no referrals have been made to the SAU involving aerospace grant applications.
- Documents covering economic rationale and public policy objective statements, proportionality and necessity analysis and valuation methodology for support may not be held, as for some funding programmes this is not conducted by IUK, for example, for the ATI programme this is conducted by the Department for Business and Trade.
- We have reviewed data held by the other UKRI research councils and can confirm that neither Rolls-Royce nor the affiliated entities listed in your clarification were awarded any non-IUK grant funding between May 2021 and February 2026. Rolls-Royce may be identified as project partners on grants listed through [UKRI's Gateway to Research](#)⁶, but project partners on non-IUK awards provide co-investment towards the total cost of the project and do not receive funding from UKRI.
- UKRI also publishes [financial transparency data](#)⁷ as part of our commitment to transparency. This lists individual transactions that may be of interest.

² <https://www.ukri.org/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects-since-2004/>

³ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/how-we-are-doing/research-outcomes-and-impact/rolls-royce-clean-aviation-projects-for-greener-flights/>

⁴ <https://cordis.europa.eu/>

⁵ <https://www.ukri.org/apply-for-funding/apply-for-horizon-europe-guarantee-funding/>

⁶ <https://gtr.ukri.org/>

⁷ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/policies-standards-and-data/data-collections/financial-data/>

Section 21 – Information Reasonably Accessible

Under Section 21 of the FOIA, information already reasonably accessible, the information you requested relating to the total committed amount of funding and amount disbursed to date for each successful and confirmed award to Rolls-Royce during this period is already available in the public domain from [UK's transparency data](#)⁸.

Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means that there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

Your rights

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](#)⁹.

Yours sincerely,


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

⁸ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/innovate-uk-funded-projects-since-2004/>

⁹ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>

Annex 1 – Confirmed ATI Programme awards to Rolls-Royce by Portfolio from 2018-2025

Project Number	Project Name	Portfolio
51689	REINSTATE	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
74217	FANTASIA	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
113174	DOTES	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
113213	HICLASS	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10112182	REPLENISH	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10160794	SONATA	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10160807	INSPECT	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10162916	Nene DDT	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10052028	BETA	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
10052752	MUSIC	Generic Technology [Not UltraFan]
113176	ACCEL	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
113182	MegaFlight	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10022603	AEROBAT	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10039770	LH2GT	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10039810	RACHEL	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10039813	HYEST	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10080672	TARGET H2	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
10141068	QRITOS	Sustainability [Not UltraFan]
113078	PROFILE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113085	CTI	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113105	IPGRESS	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113106	DELICE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113110	CHASM	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113120	POSTIE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113121	SUSSUDIO	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113122	COAST	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113144	PACE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113145	ENCASE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113155	DE-ICER	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113158	EXCITE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113189	ARCB	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113190	FANTASTICAL	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113191	ARCT	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113194	VETO	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113195	VESSPER	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113200	WESTUN	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113201	LUSH	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113214	RUCOSS	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113216	POPCOT	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113232	FANDANGO	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113262	ENPROT	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113290 / 48342	FANBOT	UltraFan - Demonstrator
113305 / 53010	LUCIA	UltraFan - Demonstrator

Project Number	Project Name	Portfolio
10153751	SODOR	UltraFan - Demonstrator
10160783	TUNE	UltraFan - Demonstrator
10160789	ASCENT	UltraFan - Demonstrator
75107	CORDITE	UltraFan - Product
113156	CAJoRR	UltraFan - Product
113159	HT3P2	UltraFan - Product
113160	CEMTEC	UltraFan - Product
113180	MALIT	UltraFan - Product
113258	CRUISE	UltraFan - Product
113263	PINES	UltraFan - Product
113282	SIRUS	UltraFan - Product
113286	FANFARE	UltraFan - Product
113296	COLIBRI	UltraFan - Product
10065634	SCHEME	UltraFan - Product
10101878	HOTLINE	UltraFan - Product
10126421	AZTEC	UltraFan - Product
10126904	HT3P3	UltraFan - Product
113295 / 47166	COGS	UltraFan - Product