

[REDACTED]

25 July 2023

[REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00403

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 27 June in which you requested the following:

Your request:

- *How much money did UK Research and Innovation spend in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 on digital skills development and/or training for staff and/or military or defence personnel? (If you have used alternate measurement or timeframes then please adjust accordingly)*
- *How much did the UK Research and Innovation spend in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 on outsourcing digital skills development and or training for staff and/or military and defence personnel to third party providers? (If you have used alternate measurement or timeframes then please adjust accordingly)*
- *Was any money in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 specifically allocated / dedicated to cybersecurity skills development and/or training? If so, how much?*

Our response

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

- *How much money did UK Research and Innovation spend in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 on digital skills development and/or training for staff and/or military or defence personnel? (If you have used alternate measurement or timeframes then please adjust accordingly)*

We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate statutory limit as specified within Section 12 of the FOIA which for UKRI is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of 18 hours of staff resource on locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We do not currently hold this data in the format you have requested, and we have determined that to retrieve the requested data would require extensive time to locate and manually review hundreds of individual contracts in order to determine if the specific training delivered falls under the umbrella of “digital skills development” or not. From our reasonable estimates, this would take over 18 hours of staff time, and therefore would exceed the cost limit. Due to the nature of the information requested, we unfortunately have no further recommendations as to how you could narrow down or refine your request to bring it under the cost limit.

Consequently, UKRI is not obliged under Section 12 of the FOIA to process your request any further.

Please note that UKRI does disclose expenditure on training as part of transparency reporting. For 2022, this can be found here: [Financial \(transparency\) data: all transactions 2022 – UKRI](#). In the expense type field, it is reported under “Staff Training” and “Training”.

- *How much did the UK Research and Innovation spend in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 on outsourcing digital skills development and or training for staff and/or military and defence personnel to third party providers? (If you have used alternate measurement or timeframes then please adjust accordingly)*

The recorded spend on staff training for digital skills development during this period was £137,946 from the central UKRI Learning and Development budget, calculated at the calendar year requested, and £169,340.34 was spent from the Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) budget, which is calculated from the financial year 2022/23. This second figure includes the amount below.

- *Was any money in the period from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 specifically allocated / dedicated to cybersecurity skills development and/or training? If so, how much?*

In the last financial year, a total of £44,483.64 was spent in this area.

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: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,


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