



9 September 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00766

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 2 September in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Information required in relation to the ESRC funded report, completed by the IFS, titled 'Tax, private school fees and state school spending' (published 11th July 2023). See link:

<https://ifs.org.uk/publications/tax-private-school-fees-and-state-school-spending>

Date range to cover from first piece of information to most recent.

Documents, email traffic, minutes, meetings and communications illustrating:

- 1. how much was paid to the IFS?*
- 2. who proposed the work? For example, the ESRC, the IFS or a third party?*
- 3. which individuals asked for, and signed off, the funding and the work?*
- 4. who was accountable for the selection of the provider and the quality of the work?*
- 5. what efforts were made to ensure independent research from an unbiased provider and individuals within it?*
- 6. which individuals from the IFS were involved in any communications?*
- 7. who else was considered for the work?*
- 8. what was the exact remit proposed by / given to the IFS?*
- 9. what involvement there was from the UKRI (including details of which individuals)?*
- 10. what involvement there was from the DSIT (including detail of which individuals)?*
- 11. what involvement there was from parliamentarians, policy makers and government departments (including detail of which individuals)?*
- 12. were any other third parties involved?*
- 13. what conflicts-of-interest checks were completed?*

Our response:

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) do not hold any information relevant to your request.

This report was produced as part of grant [ES/T014334/1](#)¹, providing funding for the [ESRC Centre for the Microeconomic Analysis of Public Policy \(CPP\)](#)² which is hosted by the Institute for Fiscal Studies.

CPP acts as a national capability for conducting and disseminating policy relevant analysis and delivers a broad programme of microeconomic research determined by the lead researchers at the host institution. As such, individual projects are designed independently of ESRC and there is no formal assessment process for project-level activities. Therefore, UKRI hold no information relevant to this specific report.

¹ <https://qtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=ES%2FT014334%2F1>

² <https://ifs.org.uk/microsite/centre-microeconomic-analysis-public-policy>

The grant is issued with [standard UKRI terms and conditions](#)³ and ESRC attends the [CPP's Advisory Board](#)⁴ meetings, which convene twice a year, in an observer capacity.

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](#)⁵.

Yours sincerely,


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

³ <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/UKRI-020424-FECGrantTermsConditionsApril2024.pdf>

⁴ <https://ifs.org.uk/centre-microeconomic-analysis-public-policy/cpp-directors-advisory-board>

⁵ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>