



[REDACTED]

24 May 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00150

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 20 April in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I see you have issued a statement in which "Following some abusive tweets in 2018, UKRI and ResearchFish staff discussed sharing abusive, threatening or offensive tweets so that UKRI could suggest the senders reconsider their language". You have "identified six incidents of tweets being flagged to UKRI over four years".

Source: <https://www.ukri.org/news/ukri-update-on-researchfish/>

Please could you provide:

- 1. The emails/minutes/other data held in which "UKRI and ResearchFish staff discussed sharing abusive, threatening or offensive tweets so that UKRI could suggest the senders reconsider their language", which were from 2018*
- 2. The emails sent from Researchfish to UKRI (or which UKRI were copied in) in these six identified incidents, along with any responses UKRI sent back to Researchfish*
- 3. The emails UKRI sent to the host institution following receipt of these emails*

Our response

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

During the course of our searches, we identified that due to Interfolio's acquisition of Researchfish in 2019, much of the correspondence you have requested would have been exchanged with Interfolio, rather than Researchfish. We have therefore also included any emails to or from UKRI that include Interfolio.

We have identified two meeting minutes documents which meet the criteria set out in question 1, seven emails which meet the criteria for question 2, and a further three emails that meet the criteria set out in question 3. Please find copies of these documents attached to this request.

Please note in regards to the minutes, that the Researchfish Steering Board is convened by Interfolio and advisory to it and is therefore external to UKRI. The Research Outcomes Management Board (ROMB) is a cross-council operational committee that manages the contract with Interfolio for UKRI.

Please note that some information contained within the meeting minutes has been redacted or withheld from disclosure where the information is not of relevance to your request and is therefore deemed out of scope. Furthermore, some information has been redacted within the attached documents as we consider that names and contact details of individuals as well as information relating to 3rd parties fall under the exemption at section 40(2) personal data.

Section 40(2) exempts personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would, amongst other things, contravene one of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and section 34(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018. In this case, we believe disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle, which provides that processing of personal data is lawful and fair.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and UKRI is not obliged to consider whether the public interest favours disclosing the information.

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: 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,

Information Governance

Information Rights Team

UK Research and Innovation

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