

20 February 2020

Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00022

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 24 January in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am writing to make a Freedom of Information Request for statistics to assess the BBSRC peer review process. I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for the BBSRC Research Committee B and Committee C.

1. The total number of Responsive Mode grant applications assessed during the three sittings of the committees in 2019. Please provide separate numbers for the two committees.
2. The number of external peer reviews received by the committees for the grant applications in 2019. I am interested in finding the distribution of the number of reviews received for each grant application. For example, how many applications received 1 review, how many applications received 2 reviews, 3 reviews etc.
3. The number of Responsive Mode grant applications awarded by the committees in 2019 and the distribution of the number of reviews received, as in #2 above.

Clarification:

On the [REDACTED] you provided further clarification that your request referred to the grants that were considered at the six committee meetings held in 2019 (three meetings for each of the two committees).

Our response

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

No. Reviews	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Totals
19RM1 B - Total	2	18	23	7	3			53
- Funded		4	5		1			10
19RM1 C - Total	5	26	22	15	4			72
- Funded	2	7	5	2				16
19RM2 B - Total	6	45	18	3				72
- Funded	1	8	5	1				15
19RM2 C - Total	1	21	37	11	14	4	1	89
Funded		2	9	3	3	2		19

As previously noted, 19RM3 is currently in progress therefore this data is not held at this time. You are welcome to submit another FOI request for this information at a later date.

Please note that there are four BBSRC Research Committees and that the data provided above serves to meet the requirements of the information you have specifically requested in regards to Committee B and Committee C. This data is therefore not representative of all grant applications assessed, the distribution of the number of reviews received, nor the total number of grant applications awarded by the committees.

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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