



[REDACTED]

17 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED],

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00247**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 19 March in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*Under the Freedom of Information Act, relating to the period from the start of November 2023 to the end of February 2024, can you please provide:*

*1) Any communications which mentioned or relate to the project "DARE UK" ("Data and Analytics Research Environments UK" – [Home - DARE UK](#) sent by the CEO of MRC (and his office) as sent to Health Data Research UK's CEO (ie Andrew Morris, and his office). Please include attachments within those communications.*

*2) Any replies or responses to those communications received by MRC (which may include the investment manager for HDR at MRC in addition to the MRC CEO)*

**Our response**

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) holds some information relevant to your request. Please see the information below and attached as 'FOI2024/00247 annex 1'.

We can confirm that UKRI holds a minimal amount of information in scope of your request. We are providing this to you in document 'FOI2024/00247 annex 1'. This includes an extract of information related to DARE UK contained in an attachment to an email, where the email and the wider attachment are out of scope of your request. These documents are out of scope because the substance of the email does not refer to DARE UK and the wider attachment concerns issues unrelated to DARE UK.

We are also providing an email related to a research infrastructure meeting that mentions DARE UK. Names and contact details of individuals in this email have been withheld as they constitute personal data.

Some information related to the [resignation](#)<sup>1</sup> of the DARE UK Director has also been withheld. We consider that this information constitutes personal data.

Information described as personal data falls under the exemption at section 40(2) of the FOI Act. Section 40(2) exempts personal information such as names of individuals 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. Disclosing this information would contravene the first Data Protection Principle as defined under Section 86 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and Article 5 of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://dareuk.org.uk/director-of-dare-uk-announces-he-is-leaving>

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test.

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](mailto: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](http://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  
[foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) | [dataprotection@ukri.org](mailto:dataprotection@ukri.org)