



[Redacted]

20 January 2022

Dear [Redacted]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2021/00523

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 17 December in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:

The number of formal bullying complaints made within UKRI and each of its constituent councils (including Innovate UK and Research England) since UKRI was formed in 2018. Also, how many of these complaints were formally investigated, and of these, the number of complaints upheld. This can be in calendar or financial years - whatever is easiest for you.

Our response

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

The information provided in the table below has been collated from across the following areas of UKRI, including centres and institutes: AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, NERC, MRC, STFC, Innovate UK, Research England, UKRI Corporate Hub, and UKRI International. Total staff numbers across all areas of UKRI, including centres and institutes was above 8000 headcount as at 31 December 2021.

UKRI	Number of formal bullying complaints	Number of formal investigations	Number of complaints upheld
2018	0	0	0
2019	5	5	1
2020	17	17	6 fully upheld and 3 partially upheld
2021	15	15	3 (with 3 investigations ongoing)

Of the number of complaints upheld in 2020 figures include those that were partially upheld, and of complaints made in 2021, three are still under investigation.

Since the inception of UKRI we have strengthened our reporting in this area, as well as increasing staff awareness of reporting mechanisms leading to an increase in cases being raised, in order for us to handle them appropriately.

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,


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