



[Redacted]

31 October 2024

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2024/00885

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

Your request:

- The actual numerical formula used to calculate 24/25 institutional allocations for £29m Policy Support Fund
- The data sources used as the basis for figures used in calculating 24/25 institutional allocations for Policy Support Fund.

I have looked in some depth at available public documents but these do not contain the information I require relating to Policy Support Fund.

Our response:

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

Policy Support Fund (PSF) allocations have been determined in proportion to a four-year average of eligible research income drawn from the Office for Students (OfS) Annual Financial Return (AFR). Eligible income for this purpose being research income from UK central government bodies, local authorities and health and hospital authorities.

Allocations are calculated using an algorithm written in R programming language, which is attached as "FOI2024_00885 Function_PSF.R". This file has been converted to a text file to enable you to view the algorithm.

Eligible institutions have been offered at least a minimum funding amount of £50k with allocations subject to an upper limit of £1m of funding.

Annex C on the [OfS website](https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/regulatory-advice-14-guidance-for-annual-financial-returns/)¹ is an example template of the AFR for each year. Data is sourced from Table 5 (Research tab); the value in column 4 ("UK central government bodies/local authorities, health and hospital authorities"), row 4 ("207 Total research grants and contracts"), subtracting the value in column 4, row 5 ("Co-investment from external sources on Research England funded projects").

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.

¹ <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/regulatory-advice-14-guidance-for-annual-financial-returns/>

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 procedure](#)².

Yours sincerely,


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

² <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>