



[REDACTED]

19 June 2020

[REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00139**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 18 May 2020 in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*I ask for transparency and for Innovate UK to reveal the number of black women that even received funding from your recent competitions in comparison to their counterparts.*

**Our response**

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) do not hold the information relevant to your request.

The data you have requested is collected through Innovate UK's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) survey. The survey is sent out via email to new registrants who use the Innovation Funding Service (IFS). IFS is the platform Innovate UK uses to collect applications for funding. Up to this point, the EDI survey has been optional and unfortunately, the completion rate has been low at 16.5% (9513 out of 57515 have responded). Therefore, the data we have collected is not representative of the applicant pool. Further, Innovate UK have not previously been able to link responses to the diversity survey to competition applications. As such, we are currently unable to give diversity statistics at a competition level.

To address this, Innovate UK will incorporate the EDI survey into the application process for all Innovate UK competitions moving forward. With higher completion rates, we will have more robust data which we will use to build a clearer picture of the application and success rates across different diversity characteristics for Innovate UK competitions.

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](mailto:foi@ukri.org) or [infogovernance@ukri.org](mailto: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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Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
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