



[REDACTED]

19 August 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2026/00617

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 23 July in which you requested the following:

Your request:

For each of the seven research councils (not including RE and Innovate), and for each of the last five years:

- *The average cost overrun for grants ending in that year and awarded through responsive mode/applicant-led calls, in cash terms and as a percentage of the average grant value*
- *The maximum cost overrun for grants ending in that year and awarded through responsive mode/applicant-led calls, in cash terms and as a percentage of the grant value*
- *The total (per year) in cost overruns for grants ending in that year and awarded through responsive mode/applicant-led calls, in cash terms and as a percentage of the aggregate grant value across calls*

Our response:

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

Research grants are not allowed to spend over their profile, and if they do those additional costs will not be funded by UKRI. Therefore, no information is held on cost overrun, where the final cost was higher than the original grant value.

Your rights

If you have any queries regarding our response please do let us know. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, explaining which elements of this decision you disagree with and why. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of our response and should be addressed to:

Head of Information Governance

Email: 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.

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](#)¹.

¹ <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/contact-us/make-a-complaint/#skipnav-target>

Yours sincerely,



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