



[REDACTED]

11 April 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00072

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 1 March in which you requested the following:

Your request:

I am enquiring to ask if the BBSRC keeps a record of which of academics attend panel meetings. We would like to identify Leicester academics engaged in BBSRC peer review, and to use this internal expertise to help us further improve our BBSRC funding culture and bid quality.

I can see from BBSRC information that here at Leicester we have a number of Full College Members and several within the Pool of Experts as well. We are interested in assessing this cohort, in terms of the following three things:

- 1. No. of reviews completed for BBSRC in last 3 years*
- 2. No. of panel meetings attended over last 3 years*
- 3. Type of panel meeting / grant scheme attended*

May I ask, do you have access to a data set that would allow the above information to be generated? This would be a massive help.

Our response

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

1. No. of reviews completed for BBSRC in last 3 years

Leicester-based Core & Pool members have reviewed 242 proposals since 2019.

2. No. of panel meetings attended over last 3 years

As this information is in the public domain, we consider that Section 21 of the FOIA - Information already reasonably accessible, would apply and have provided the relevant link below. Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means that there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

Information on which member from the University of Leicester cohort from the Pool of Experts sat on which panel and when, including the number of panel meetings attended is available [here](#)¹.

3. Type of panel meeting / grant scheme attended

¹ <https://www.ukri.org/publications/research-committee-membership-bbsrc/>

The majority of panel meetings attended are BBSRC's Responsive Mode (RM); some panel members have also attended the Strategic Longer Larger (sLoLa) awards panel meetings or ALERT (the mid-range equipment call).

There are eight members of the Pool of Experts from the University of Leicester, 3 Pool members and 5 Core members and BBSRC appreciates their invaluable assistance with helping our peer review process run smoothly, fairly and robustly.

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,


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