



[REDACTED]

23 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Freedom of Information request: FOI2022/00075

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 8 March in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Could you provide me with the names and percentage of UK universities with established centres for Research in the Humanities (e.g. TORCH, University of Oxford)?

Could you provide me with details of funding awarded to TORCH (University of Oxford) by the UKRI or related bodies in the following years:

2019 - 2020

2020 - 2021

2021 - 2022

2022 - 2023

Could you provide me with information on the funding outcome to TORCH (university of Oxford)? E.g. Abandoned projects, successful projects, profits made or losses incurred (if available)?

Finally, I would appreciate any information that supports continued funding for research centres and information that opposes such support.

I want any data to be sent in electronic format.

Clarification received 15 March 2022

Please could you clarify what information you are seeking from UKRI as it is not clear what you mean by 'information that supports continued funding for research centres and information that opposes such support'.

If possible, I would like to know if there have been studies or surveys or any type of quantitative research that promotes the importance of UKRI funding. I am not a researcher, so please bear with my crude example: In 2019, 70% of projects that received UKRI funding were completed. Question 4 is the only one I would like to be solved. Your answer to the first three questions sufficed."

Our response

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

Regarding your request for "studies or surveys or any type of quantitative research that promotes the importance of UKRI funding", 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 links below. Section 21 is an absolute exemption which means that there is no requirement to conduct a public interest test.

UKRI is committed to monitoring and evaluating its funding and other activities to understand impact, judge success and, over the longer term, build our knowledge of what works to best support and enable impactful research and innovation.

Every time we award a grant to a researcher or business to support research and innovation, the recipient is required to complete a survey describing the outputs and outcomes of their project. This data is published in raw form on the [Gateway to Research](#)¹ website and is also collated and published in the form of an [interactive tool](#)² on UKRI's website which anyone can use.

UKRI also commissions independent evaluations of our major programmes, institutes and infrastructures and gathers case studies revealing the impact of research and innovation supported by UKRI, some of which are accessible [here](#)³.

Further various evidence on UKRI's performance is published in its [Annual Report and Accounts](#)⁴ and UKRI also publishes a [UKRI outcomes dashboard](#)⁵ which demonstrates outputs of UKRI projects.

Regarding arts and humanities in particular, below are some examples of research outputs that may be of interest:

Project/Programme	Objective
Connected Communities ⁶	A collaborative research programme designed to deliver benefits to communities across the UK. The published final evaluation report ⁷ provided clear evidence of the strengths and weaknesses of the funding model.
Centre for Cultural Value ⁸	A research centre devoted to building a shared understanding of the differences that arts, culture, heritage and screen make to people's lives and to society, based on rigorous research and evaluation of what works and what needs to change. Developed in response to AHRC's 2016 report Understanding the Value of Arts and Culture: The AHRC Cultural Value Project ⁹ , the Centre is supported and funded by a collaboration between AHRC, ACE and Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Boundless Creativity Report ¹⁰	Exercise jointly commissioned with DCMS, to develop understanding of impacts of Covid on cultural and creative sectors. Research directed by Expert Advisory Panel, under joint stewardship of outgoing AHRC Chair and Gov.'s Commissioner for Cultural Recovery and Renewal
Storycraft ¹¹	External research project commissioned to explore role of AH thinking/skills in commercial world. Qualitative analysis of uses and role of narrative and storytelling in business, based on interviews with 34 FTSE100 CEOs and Chairs

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

¹ <https://qtr.ukri.org/>

² https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/uk_research_and_innovation.ukri#!/

³ <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/research-outcomes-and-impact/>

⁴ <https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/UKRI-200721-AnnualReport2020-2021.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.ukri.org/our-work/what-we-have-funded/research-and-innovation-outputs/>

⁶ <https://connected-communities.org/>

⁷ <https://connected-communities.org/index.php/creating-living-knowledge-report/>

⁸ <https://www.culturalvalue.org.uk/>

⁹ <https://www.artsheresources.org.uk/docs/understanding-the-value-of-arts-culture-the-ahrc-cultural-value-project/>

¹⁰ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005410/Boundless_Creativity_v1.pdf

¹¹ <https://skope.ox.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Storycraft-Full-Report.pdf>

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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