



[REDACTED]

12 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00038

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 14th February 2020 in which you requested the following:

Your request:

For the UKRI MRC "GCRF Action against Stunting Hub" research project (UKRI project reference MR/S01313X/1) for a value of £18,271,184, can you please provide information on:

- 1. The process, criteria and reasoning for selecting the Principal Investigator for this project*
- 2. Terms and conditions of the funding, specifically the obligations and key deliverables required of the project*
- 3. The processes and controls in place for ensuring that the funded amount is spent in accordance with the funding terms and conditions*

Our response

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) hold information relevant to your request. Some introductory information is provided below on the project and funding programme followed by responses addressing the information you have requested.

Information relating to the UKRI award (reference MR/S01313X/) to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine to support the GCRF Action against stunting Hub can be found on the Gateway to Research at the following link: <https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=MR%2FS01313X%2F1>. This includes information on the project and research involved, as the project progresses this will also include information on study outcomes and outputs.

The award was funded through the call for proposals for Interdisciplinary Research Hubs to address intractable challenges faced by developing countries. Further information on the call, including high-level information on all awards, call text and guidance documents and information on assessment can be found at the following link: <https://www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/interdisciplinary-research-hubs-to-address-intractable-challenges-faced-by-developing-countries/>

Turning now to your specific requests:

- 1. The process, criteria and reasoning for selecting the Principal Investigator for this project*

The guidance for applicants and call information can be found on our website on the Interdisciplinary Research Hub page: <https://www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/interdisciplinary-research-hubs-to-address-intractable-challenges-faced-by-developing-countries/>.

The following documents outline the roles and responsibilities of the Principal Investigator/Hub Director, and other roles including Co-Investigators, research partners, project partners and subcontractors. They also contain information on the assessment, including the assessment of the research team:

- Outline call text and guidance - *Interdisciplinary Research Hubs to Address Intractable Challenges Faced by Developing Countries*, see page 6 for information relating to the Principal Investigator/Hub Director
- Full call text and guidance documents – *GCRF full stage combined documents - Interdisciplinary Research Hubs to Address Intractable Challenges Faced by Developing Countries*, see page 5 for information relating to the Principal Investigator/Hub Director

2. Terms and conditions of the funding, specifically the obligations and key deliverables required of the project

All GCRF Interdisciplinary Research Hubs are subject to the standard UKRI grant Terms and Conditions and additional programme specific conditions:

- *UK Research and Innovation fEC Grants Standard Terms and Conditions of Grant* are available the following link: <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/>. (see RGC 7.4 for details of obligations relating to information required for project monitoring and evaluation purposes)
- A copy of the *GCRF Interdisciplinary Research Hubs - Additional Terms and Conditions* is attached. This is provided to the award holder with the grant offer letter.

3. The processes and controls in place for ensuring that the funded amount is spent in accordance with the funding terms and conditions

The processes and controls in place to ensure funding is spent in accordance to funding terms and conditions are outlined within the documents.

- The *UK Research and Innovation fEC Grants Standard Terms and Conditions of Grant* outline the processes and controls which includes an annual audit process delivered by UKRI Funding Assurance (e.g. see RGC 7.5)
- The *GCRF Interdisciplinary Research hubs – Additional Terms and Conditions* outline further requirements, including:
 - Management structures built into and implemented by each project (see GAC HUBS 5)
 - Review after six months (See GAC HUBS 6)
 - Stage Gate Review (See GAC HUBS 6)
 - Official Development Assistance compliance (see GAC GCRF 1)

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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