18 April 2016

Reference number: Fol - 289

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I am writing in response to the request you made to BBSRC under the Freedom of Information Act, which was received on Tuesday 5 April 2016.

Statement of information requested

I note that the cabinet office document does not mention using settlement agreements in mass redundancy situations. Indeed it says: “This guidance does not cover payments which may be made in connection with the termination of employment under the Civil Service Compensation Scheme”. However, the BBSRC settlement agreement added redundancy compensation in the modifications in 2015 and that these CSCS moneys should be repaid for any breach of the agreement. Not even state minimum compensation would remain with the redundant employee.

I note that you mention consultation with Trade Unions. Can you please provide the date or dates of any meetings, such as joint negotiating committee meetings, where the matter was consulted on with TU. In addition, I request the relevant parts of the minutes of these meetings and which union representatives were involved.

Background

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) is one of seven Research Councils that work together as Research Councils UK (RCUK). It is funded from the Government’s Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. BBSRC’s budget for 2014/15 was £509M and it supports around 1,600 scientists and 2,000 research students in universities and institutes in the UK. Information about BBSRC’s mission can be found on our website at http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/organisation/mission.aspx.

UK Shared Business Services (UK SBS) provides a range of services, including IT, to BBSRC and other public sector organisations. UK SBS enters contracts on its clients behalf and provides services to them.

Duty to confirm or deny

BBSRC does not hold the information requested. There were no meeting with Trade Unions of any kind regarding this matter.

If you have any further questions, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

BBSRC Freedom of Information Officer

Publication: please note that this response to your request may be published on a public website.

Complaints Process

If you are dissatisfied with how we have handled your request, you may register a formal complaint with the BBSRC Complaints Officer at complaints.office@bbsrc.ac.uk, who will conduct an internal review.
If you are not happy with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner, Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, Tel: 01625 545 745, [https://ico.org.uk/](https://ico.org.uk/).