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 Friday 4 December 2015.

Statement of information requested

I would be interested in finding out which research grants are rejected, and not accepted, by the BBSRC? Do you have records which you could send me, particularly regarding those that have passed the peer review process but could not be funded because of limited funding allocations? Your website was very easy to navigate and I found lots of information on funding and projects that have been awarded grants, but I couldn't find any information regarding those that were not successful.

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

I can confirm that BBSRC does hold some of the information requested.

Exemptions which apply

The information you have requested falls within the following exemption and therefore will not be released;

Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act – information provided in confidence

Information is exempt if:

- It was obtained by the public authority from another person (including another public authority), and
- The disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person

For further information on the Freedom of Information Act and Exemptions please use the following link, which takes you to the Information Commissioner’s Office website; https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/refusing-a-request/
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 officer@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/.