19 December 2016

Reference number: FoI - 321

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 Monday 28 November 2016.

Statement of information requested

I would like to formally request the following information regarding Genetic Modification tools and techniques (including but limited to CRISPR-Cas9 and other genome-editing techniques)

1) The total number of successful research grant awards in the area of Genetic modification and study, between Jan 1st 2009 and 2nd Dec 2015, broken down by each year?

2) The total value of successful research grant awards in the area of Genetic modification and study, between Jan 1st 2009 and 2nd Dec 2015, broken down by each year?

3) The name of institutions successful research grant awards in the area of Genetic modification and study were made, and in each case their individual values and the date they were awarded?

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 hold some of the information requested.

Exemptions

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act states the following;

Section 12 of FOIA allows a public authority to refuse to deal with a request where it estimates that it would exceed the appropriate limit to: - either comply with the request in its entirety or; - confirm or deny whether the requested information is held.

The estimate must be reasonable in the circumstances of the case.

The appropriate limit is currently £600 for central government and £450 for all other public authorities.

Where a public authority claims that section 12 is engaged, it should, where reasonable, provide advice and assistance to help the requestor to refine the request so that it can be dealt with under the appropriate limit.
Requested Information

The time needed to comply with your request would exceed the limits set out within section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act (quoted above). Please contact me so I can offer guidance on how, by refining your request, you may be able to get some of the information you requested.

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/](https://ico.org.uk/).