Dear [Name],

Freedom of Information request: 2018/0029

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 26th January 2019 relating to the work of the Medical Research Council (MRC). In your request you requested the following:

Your Request:

I should be very much obliged if, under the auspices of the Freedom of Information Act, you would be kind enough to furnish me with the sums spent on research on ME for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, please.

Our response:

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation does hold information relevant to your request. The Medical Research Council (MRC) supports research in response to proposals from the research community. All applications submitted to the MRC are subject to scientific peer review and judged in open competition with other demands on funding and only the highest quality proposals can be funded. The MRC does not normally allocate funds to particular topics and research proposals in all areas complete for the funding available. Information of MRC funding for research into Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME) is provided in the table below.

The MRC analyses research expenditure by financial rather than calendar year, and the figures below provide information on spend on research projects from 2013/14 to 2017/18. Information on spend on projects with spend in 2018/19 is not currently available for analysis, as data is only available on the approval of our annual accounts in the summer.

MRC Expenditure on research into CFS/ME, 2013/14 to 2017/18, £k

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>MRC spend on CFS/ME Research £k</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>£602k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>£652k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>£287k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>£286k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>£222k</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you have any queries about this response please contact me, or if you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, please write to:
Complaints Officer
UK Research and Innovation
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1FL
Email: foi@ukri.org

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are still not content with the outcome of the 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:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Enquiry/Information Line: Between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745
Further information about the Office of the Information Commissioner can be found at http://www.ico.gov.uk/

Yours sincerely,

UK Research and Innovation, Information Governance Team
Email: foi@ukri.org