Freedom of Information request: 2019/0074

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request submitted on 14th March 2019 relating to research projects funded by the Medical Research Council (MRC). In your request you asked for the following information:

Your Request:

Can you please provide me with the project titles, a description, dates, research organisations involved and cost for the projects referred to in this link, funded with money from the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases fund?

https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/science-areas/international-and-global-health-research/funding-partnerships/global-alliance-for-chronic-diseases/

From my reading of the above, there were

2 projects commissioned in 2011 worth £1m in total
Unspecified number of projects in November 2013 worth £2m
2 projects in 2015 were funded worth £2m in total

Please also give me the details of any projects that have been funded by the Medical Research Council from 2015-2019 not mentioned in the link above, if they exist.

Finally, can you tell me if all of these projects qualified as Overseas Development Assistance? If some of them did but others did not, please specify.

Our response:

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation does hold information relating to your request.

Details of all projects funded by the MRC under the Global Alliance for Chronic Disease (GACD) can be found on the MRC website. The spreadsheet entitled ‘Grants and Fellowships awarded’ on the Funded Research web page (https://mrc.ukri.org/research/funded-research/) lists 11 Research Grants funded since the GACD was launched in 2011. Research grants funded by the GACD can be identified by filtering column ‘O’ by ‘GACD’.

All projects funded through the GACD qualify as Overseas Development Assistance, this is indicated in column ‘U’ of the ‘Grants and Fellowship awarded’ spreadsheet. Please note that there is no difference
between projects marked with an X or Y in this column; this use of different identifiers is an error, and these will be recoded to a single indicator in the next update, which is anticipated in May 2019.

In considering your request we have found that the figures currently provided on the web page describing the work of the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (https://mrc.ukri.org/funding/science-areas/international-and-global-health-research/funding-partnerships/global-alliance-for-chronic-diseases/) are incorrect and need to be updated. We have raised this with the team responsible who will correct the web site in due course; thank you for drawing this error to our attention.

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,

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