

23rd August 2019

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request: 2019/0209 EP

Thank you for your freedom of information request received on the 1st of August 2019 in which you requested the following:

Your request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like answers to the following questions:

1. How many research misconduct investigations were reported to EPSRC in the last 10 years?
2. What is the average number of investigations a British university has handled in this period?
3. How many investigations ended with a disciplinary action?
4. How many were raised by a postdoctoral researcher?

Our response

I can confirm UK Research and Innovation hold information relevant to your request. Please see the information below.

1. How many research misconduct investigations were reported to EPSRC in the last 10 years?
48
2. What is the average number of investigations a British university has handled in this period?
We do not hold this information
3. How many investigations ended with a disciplinary action?
10
4. How many were raised by a postdoctoral researcher?
5

Please note:

- 8/48 cases counted in response to Q1 are still under investigation; this means that our response to Q3 relates only to the 40 cases which were reported to us and which have been closed
- Our response to Q4 relates to all cases counted in the response to Q1

- We do not request or require to be informed about a complainant's career stage, and the identity of a complainant is normally withheld from us in cases reported to us by Research Organisations. The response to Q4 must therefore not be taken as indicative of the real number of cases stemming from complaints made by post-doctoral researcher.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek a review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance

UK Research and Innovation
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1FL
Email: foi@ukri.org or infogovernance@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/>

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,


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