



University of East Anglia

Information Services Directorate

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 593 523
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>



30 January 2018

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_18-020)

We have now considered your request of 21 January 2018 for information relating to the use of animals in research at UEA in the calendar year 2017. .

Our response is on page 3 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide all the requested information. The Act contains a number of exemptions that allow public authorities to withhold certain information from release. We have applied the following exemption to part of your request.

Exemption	Reason
s.36(2)(b)(ii), Prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs	Release of this information would be likely to inhibit the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation

With regard to the application of s.36(2)(b)(ii), it is the reasonable opinion of the Vice-Chancellor (the University’s ‘qualified person’ under the Act) that disclosure of the information requested in question 2 of your request would be likely to have an adverse effect on the University’s ability to freely discuss, and therefore effectively support, research involving animals. This in turn would impact on one of the core objectives of the University, which is to produce internationally-renowned, innovative and diverse research.

We note that this request is virtually identical to two (2) prior requests from your organisation in 2016¹ and then again in 2017². Upon reconsideration of this request, the opinion of the Vice-Chancellor remains unchanged from that given in 2017, and we would refer you to the request from 2016 for the explanation as to why we feel that the above-noted exemption applies to this current request and for our consideration of the public interest test required for the application of this exemption.

¹ https://portal.uea.ac.uk/documents/6207125/6884214/160506_Response+letter_FOI_16-093_Redacted.pdf/

² https://portal.uea.ac.uk/documents/6207125/6884214/170216_Response+letter_FOI_17-028_Redacted.pdf/2a50ad61-493d-489b-bc1b-283551427c73

We hope this response will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website:

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Dave Palmer
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_18-020)

I write in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("The Act") to request the disclosure of data held which concerns the use of animals in research by University of East Anglia ("The Public Authority").

For the avoidance of doubt the term 'animal research' is defined as regulated procedures governed by the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 ("ASPA") and EU Directive 2010/63/EU ("The EU Directive").

The information I wish to request is as follows:

1. By species: How many animals were used in research by "The Public Authority" from January 1st 2017 to December 31st 2017?

Our response is within the table below:

Species	Number of animals
Mice	10,908
Xenopus laevis	133
Xenopus tropicalis	41

2. Minutes, reports and correspondence of any Animal Welfare & Ethical Review Board ("AWERB"), formerly known as the Ethical Review Committee ("ERC"), or sub-committee at university level, including but not limited to departmental committees, from 2016, where these relate to experimentation or other work involving captive live animals, in addition to any guidance issued by these committees at any time if currently in use. For the avoidance of doubt the term 'committee' is used in broad definition and is inclusive of boards, groups or similarly natured structural enterprises.

[Information exempted pursuant to s.36(2)(b)(ii), Freedom of Information Act]

The requested information is exempted from release for the reasons noted in the above letter.

There is no additional guidance issued specifically by the AWERB regarding to experimentation or other work involving live animals, however the UEA Research Ethics Policy³ does provide guidance for staff in this area.

³<https://www.uea.ac.uk/documents/251484/3124686/UREC%2BPolicy%2BJan%2B2012.pdf/17206b85-ff33-4e13-adb9-a10ee6f32d0f>