



University of East Anglia

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[REDACTED]

09 March 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_17-039)

We have now considered your request of 11 February 2017 for information relating to suicides, suicide prevention measures and student mental health support for the period 2010/11 to 2016/17.

As per your wishes, our response is within the attached document entitled FOI_17-039 Appendix A. For your convenience, we have reproduced your request on page 3 of this letter.

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide all the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm that the University does not hold information on the percentage of current University staff involved in tutoring/mentoring students or in a pastoral role that have completed Mental Health First Aid (or equivalent) training.

This is due to the fact that the exact number of staff in pastoral, mentoring/tutoring roles is not known. There are a wide variety of staff that could be involved in some way in mentoring or tutoring which would not necessarily be recorded.

We hope this information 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_17-039)

I am asking you under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act to provide me with the following information relating to your university. The four headings are as follows:

- 1. The number of your students who have taken their own life (or have had a narrative verdict at inquest to suggest intent) whilst studying at your university- data to be provided by individual academic year for the period 2010/11 to 2015/16.*
- 2. The university budget allocated to student mental health support - to be stated as £ expenditure per head for the registered student population for that year, provided by individual academic year for the period 2010/11 to 2016/17.*
- 3. What % of existing university staff involved in tutoring/mentoring students or in a pastoral role have completed Mental Health First Aid (or equivalent) training to help them recognise, and confidently provide first-line support to students with common mental health problems- to be stated as a % for the academic year 2016/17.*
- 4. What suicide prevention information is provided to all students as part of their university enrollment/induction? - NONE or Yes/ No responses to the following headings: Plus free text under Other*
 - a) None*
 - b) How to look after your mental wellbeing,*
 - c) Early recognition of common mental health problems such as stress / anxiety / depression,*
 - d) How /where to get help,*
 - e) What to do if having suicidal thoughts.*
 - f) How to help your friends*
 - g) Other*

Our response is within the attached document entitled FOI_17-039 Appendix A.

Please note that our response to question 1 of your request should be accompanied by the caveat that that the figures presented only represent held information and does not necessarily accurately reflect the actual number of suicides as we do not hold complete data regarding the cause of all student deaths that occur off-campus.

Additionally, in relation to question 2, the figures represent the budget for staff costs where we can verify 100% of their role is devoted to student mental health support. There are numerous other staff who have some responsibilities in this role but as we do not hold a percentage of their role devoted to these activities we cannot determine the percentage of the staff budget for those posts which is devoted to student mental health support. Thus, the response to question 2 will be an underestimate of the actual budget that is devoted to student mental health support.