

[REDACTED]

19 July 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_18-138)

We have now considered your request of 20 June 2018, as clarified on 21 June 2018, for information relating to the frequency and nature of reports of rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment at UEA from June 2015 to the date of the request.

Unfortunately, on this occasion it is not possible to provide any of the requested information. We have determined that the cost of finding and assembling some of the requested information will exceed the ‘appropriate limit’ as defined by section 12 of the Act and the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004/3244.

The ‘appropriate limit’ of £450, which equates to 18 hours’ work, can relate to one request in its entirety or to a series of linked requests. If the University cannot locate, retrieve and extract some or all of the requested information within the 18 hours we are not obliged to retrieve any of the requested information.

Specifically, to deliver the granularity of data requested in questions 1, 2, and 3 of your request, would require more than 18 hours effort on our part to locate and extract the requested information. This is due to the fact that the statistics that we hold, particularly those held by our Student Support Services department, are not at a level of detail equivalent to that requested.

For these records, to determine whether the gender of the complainant as requested in question 3(b) was trans would require the manual review of approximately 150 case files. In order to identify ‘sexual harassment’, as distinct from rape or sexual assault, we would need to review of an additional 40-45 files. Given the time required to identify the relevant file and to manually locate and extract the requested information, we believe that this would put us in excess of the appropriate limit. For example, allowing 10 minutes per file would equate to over 30 hours of work.

To assist you in formulating a request to which we can respond, we can confirm that we would be able to provide a response to questions 4 to 9 as submitted. Were the request for number of trans complainants be removed from question 3(b), we would be able to respond to questions 1 to 3. We should note, however, that the information held by certain departments within the University (e.g. Security Services) is limited in detail and would only be indicative in nature.

It may be helpful to note that much of the information has already been published in response to prior requests, which can found on our Disclosure Log (<https://portal.uea.ac.uk/information-services/strategy-planning-and-compliance/regulations-and-policies/information-regulations-and-policies/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/other>).

Each FOI response letter is listed by reference. In particular, the following references are likely to be relevant:

- FOI_18-033
- FOI_18-018
- FOI_18-007
- FOI_17-262

You have the right of appeal against this decision. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your grounds of appeal and send to me at the address noted in the heading to this letter.

You must appeal our decision 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 quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Dave Palmer
Information Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia