

[REDACTED]

28 January 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000– Information request (ref: FOI_19-005)

We have now considered your requests of 07 and 23 January 2019 for information relating to the cost of counsellors and breakdown of spending by the University's Student Support Services. For your convenience, on this occasion we have considered both requests together and our response is on page 2 of this letter, together with a copy of your requests.

It is however not possible to provide some of 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 reallocation of funding. Further detail is provided on page 2.

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 40 working days of the date of this letter. In line with section 5.3 of the UK Government's Freedom of Information Act Code of Practice, we are not obliged to accept internal reviews after this date.

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.

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

Yours sincerely

Kirsty McDonald
Information Compliance Assistant
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_19-005)

(a) I would also like to request statistics for the cost of counsellors, from years 2013-14 year on year (as much data as can be provided), and if money is reallocated to other mental health services when staff is lost?

Our response is within the table below.

<i>Academic Year</i>	<i>Budget for Counsellors</i>	<i>Actual cost utilised for Counsellors</i>
2013-14	£245,510	£213,098
2014-15	£252,934	£201,850
2015-16	£253,542	£191,915*
2016-17	£233,356	£251,837
2017-18	£295,150	£386,634

*2015-16 is the year when the University's Counselling Service started to merge with the Dean of Students office (now Student Support) and in that year there was a budget transfer from UCS to DOS of £54,902. The expenditure related to this was incurred through DOS so we have deducted this from the 2015-16 figure as it cannot be confirmed as being specifically Counselling Service expenditure.

[Information not held, s.1(1)(a), Freedom of Information Act]

We do not hold recorded information on the reallocation of funds where staffing budgets are not fully utilised. Due to the way Student Support Services undertakes financial planning and budgeting, the service may report a favourable variance to budget in one area and another area may report an adverse variance to budget. However, unless specifically documented in the financial plan, there won't be a budget transfer between the two areas.

(b) [Additional request received 23 January 2019]: 'As well as this, would I be able to see how much money is being spent on Student Support (all services broken down) from 2013-14 to present'.

Our response is within the table below:

<i>Academic Year</i>	<i>Budget Elements</i>						
	<i>Staff</i>	<i>Core Running Costs</i>	<i>Student Orientation</i>	<i>Learning Support</i>	<i>Senior Resident System</i>	<i>Multifaith Centre</i>	<i>Student Hardship</i>
2013/14	£1,157,507	£87,595	£54,264	£254,060	£12,816	£1,724	£79,856
2014/15	£1,125,744	£125,733	£58,530	£343,762	£10,870	£1,579	£90,499
2015/16	£1,303,101	£66,721	£52,818	£217,687	£12,787	£2,311	£35,288
2016/17	£1,487,017	£125,384	£67,023	£306,663	£10,844	£2,794	£54,994
2017/18	£1,483,906	£157,281	£61,932	£268,265	£7,813	£466	£49,178

