



University of East Anglia

Information Compliance (ITCS)

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08 April 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_19-083)

We have now considered your request of 15 March 2019 for the following information:

- 1. (a) For the combined total of the last three academic years (15/16) (16/17) and (17/18) how many cases have been reported to the university authorities of incidents when female students have claimed to have been the victim of a sexual assault? (b) How many of these were alleged to have been committed by a male student?*
- 2. (a) How many of these sexual assaults were alleged to have been rapes, and (b) in how many of the cases was a male student identified as the alleged attacker?*
- 3. Over the same time period please state what, if any, university disciplinary sanctions, were imposed on male students in connection with carrying out these alleged sexual assaults on female students?*
- 4. For the (17/18) academic year how many cases have been reported to the university authorities of incidents when female students have claimed to have been the victim of any kind of sexual abuse or harassment from male students at the university? If derogatory or abusive language was part of the complaint, either verbally or online, then for each case give the exact words that were alleged to have been used against the woman.'*

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, specifically for questions 1(b) and 2(b), 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.

We believe that two University departments may hold data relevant to your request: Student Support Services (SSS), and Security Services. However, information

regarding the gender and status of the alleged assailant is not recorded separately in any of the records held by SSS. Therefore, each potentially relevant file would have to be reviewed manually to locate and extract the requested information.

In order to locate instances of the behaviour you have requested, for the time period we would have to manually extract and review approximately 215 separate files, consisting of both Senior Warden reports and appointment data from SSS counselling services. We estimate it would require an average of 5 minutes per record to extract the record and locate any relevant information, and this, in combination with the time already expended identifying the location of this information, would be in excess of the appropriate limit.

To assist you in formulating a request to which we can respond, it would be possible to provide information on the number of reports of behaviour classified as 'sexual misconduct' or 'sexual assault' received by SSS, without reference to the status of the alleged perpetrator. Please note that this information is categorised in very general terms and only denotes the behaviour as being discussed (in the case of appointment data), or as a factor in the incident (as in the case of Senior Warden reports).

We would also be able to provide reports of such behaviour received by our Security Services for the time period specified, with an indication of the status of the alleged perpetrator. However, this figure would only represent a minority of such reports to the University.

We are sorry we cannot provide the data you requested, but trust this letter explains our position. If you are unhappy with our response, you have the right of appeal against this decision. 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.

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