



Information Assurance and Governance
Office of the Principal

12 September 2019

Dear Mr Pitts,

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Our Ref: 336-19

I refer to your enquiry dated 21 August 2019 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA") asking to be supplied with information in relation to the following undergraduate courses for the past three UCAS admission cycles:

- BSc Biology (C100);
- BSc Biology and Mathematics;
- BSc Biology and Philosophy (CV16); and
- BSc Biology and Sustainable Development (F896).

- 1) The GCSE grades achieved by each applicant
- 2) The A-Level subject combinations of each applicant
- 3) The predicted A-Level grades of each applicant

The University does not hold information in relation to GCSEs or A-Levels in a reportable and verifiable format. It is not possible to answer parts 1, 2 and 3 of your enquiry by simply locating and retrieving data from the records that we hold. The process involved, requires data analysis, validation and a level of intellectual input resulting in the creation of new information which is out with the provisions of the FOISA.

Section 17 of the FOISA requires that a Scottish public authority confirms in writing where information requested of it is not held and notice is therefore given to this effect.

- 4) Whether the applicant received an offer
- 5) Whether the applicant accepted the offer

The table below provides the number of applications, offers and acceptances (Full Time Equivalent) to single honours and selected joint honours Biology BSc for the last three complete application cycles.

Table 1/

Information Assurance and Governance
01334 462776
foi@st-andrews.ac.uk

Table 1: Number of applications, offers and acceptances (FTE) to single honours and selected joint honours Biology BSc, by academic year

Degree programme	Application Stage	Year		
		2016/7	2017/8	2018/9
Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biology (C100)	Application	309	296	325
	Offer	154	185	175
	Acceptance	71	83	82
Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biology and Mathematics (CG11)	Application	27	20	21
	Offer	8	7	3
	Acceptance	4	3	0
Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biology and Philosophy (CV16)	Application	14	8	10
	Offer	8	4	2
	Acceptance	3	3	0

The BSc Biology and Sustainable Development (F896) course was introduced for academic year 2019/20. Under section 17(1) of the FOISA, notice is given that no data is held by the University for this course in relation to academic years 2016/17 to 2018/19 inclusive.

For your information, data is currently being verified as part of the creation of a record pertaining to the 2019/20 student intake. An end-of-year snapshot of the 2018/19 application cycle (for entry in 2019/20) is scheduled to be produced towards the end of October.

Your right to seek a review of how your information request was managed

If you are not satisfied with the University's response and/or our reasoning set-out above, you have the right to request a review of our decision. The time lines in which this right is available are set out in section 20(5)(a) and (b) FOISA. In broad terms the right to seek a review must be exercised within 40 working days of receiving this response.

Any request for review should be put in writing or some other permanent form e.g. an e-mail and should be sent to the University of St Andrews, through the contact details provided below.

A request for a Review should:

- a) state your name and address;
- b) describe the nature of your original request; and
- c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

Freedom of Information / Environmental Information
 University of St Andrews
 Butts Wynd (Building)
 St Andrews
 Fife
 KY16 9AJ

Email foi@st-andrews.ac.uk

Telephone +44(0)1334 462776

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with following Review, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner (SIC) for a decision. In the event of an appeal to the SIC, the Commissioner will generally only be able to investigate the matters raised in the request for review.

Details on how to make an appeal online to the SIC can be found on their website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>

Alternatively, you can contact the SIC by post, telephone or email at:

Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610

E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Website: www.itspublicknowledge.info

This concludes the University's response.

Yours sincerely

JUNE WEIR

Information Assurance and Governance Officer

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01334 462776
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