

Adam Sharpe By email

Reference: FOI-2017-320

8 August 2017

Dear Mr Sharpe,

Your request was received on 14 July 2017 and I am dealing with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

You asked:

I am writing to request, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act, the following records. The relevant dates for all requests begins on 1 September 2015 and ends on 14 May 2017.

- (A) the minutes of any meetings of the relevant bodies
- (B) the meeting papers of any meetings of the relevant bodies, where meeting papers are those papers circulated to members of the relevant bodies before or during a meeting for discussion at that meeting

For the purpose of this request, the relevant bodies are:

Admissions Forum

Undergraduate Admissions Committee (UAC)

Your request is refused under section 14(1) of the Act because the University considers it to be vexatious. This is not because of the tone or content of your request but instead because of the grossly oppressive burden that would be imposed on the University by the requirement to manually review the papers that go to each meeting to ensure that none of the information requested is subject to any substantive exemptions (in particular those for personal information) set out in Part II of the Act. The total volume of paperwork you have requested runs to significantly in excess of 1,000 pages.

While there is no obligation to provide advice and assistance when refusing a request under section 14(1) of the Act, it is likely that the Minutes of these two bodies from the period could be supplied in response to a new request under the Act without a grossly oppressive burden being imposed so as to render your request vexatious.

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If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request an internal review of this decision, you should write to Dr Kirsty Allen, Head of the Registrary's Office, quoting the reference above, at The Old Schools, Trinity Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1TN or send an email marked for her attention to foi@admin.cam.ac.uk. The University would normally expect to receive your request for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter and reserves the right not to review a decision where there has been undue delay in raising a complaint. If you are not content with the outcome of your review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner may be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (https://ico.org.uk/).

Yours sincerely,

James Knapton