



Information Assurance and Governance
Office of the Principal

18 December 2019

Dear Jamie,

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Our Ref: 462-19

I refer to your enquiry received on 20 November 2019 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA") asking to be supplied with the following information:

- The total spend on staff and student wellbeing services (or the equivalent department) during the 2018/19 academic year.
- Are student mental health services funded by the total identified above?
- If not, could you please identify which departments are responsible for student mental health support?

The University does not hold the information requested and it is not possible to give an accurate reflection of the position to what, has been found to be quite a complex request for the reasons set out below:

- a) Spend on wellbeing and mental health services for staff and students is not centralised and the University does not record or hold information that allows your enquiry to be answered through the simple process of data-retrieval.
- b) The term 'wellbeing' can cover a variety of activities and service provision.
- c) Depending on how 'wellbeing' is being defined, the following units may all contribute in some way to staff and student wellbeing/mental health:
 - Centre for Academic, Professional and Organisational Development;
 - Occupational Health Services for staff;
 - School Wellbeing Officers;
 - Chaplaincy and pastoral support for students and staff;
 - Sports Centre;
 - Human Resources;
 - Residential and Business Services; and
 - Student Services.

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- d) A lot of support/services available in the above units and across the University, are delivered by staff who may also be doing other things. Costs are therefore difficult to determine and not attributed in the way necessary to provide the information requested, even were a more detailed definition of 'wellbeing' to be given.
- e) As an example, the remit of Student Services is much wider than the focus of your enquiry and costs are not attributable to specific wellbeing functions. It is therefore not possible to provide the costs requested or to provide data that accurately represents the level of support offered by the unit.

Advice and Assistance

The University has identified a distinct record series held by our Centre for Academic, Professional and Organisational Development that can be supplied with the caveat that this will give very specific information found to be of relevance to your enquiry and should not be taken to represent the overall position of activity and spend across the University for staff and students in the area of wellbeing and mental health.

- Non-pay budget for activities of the University Wellbeing and Engagement programme for staff in financial year 2019/20; and
- Non-pay budget for Wellbeing and mental health related training for staff in financial year 2019/20.

Should you wish to be supplied with the above data then please let me know and I will arrange for this to be processed.

Information not held

For the reasons set out above, the University does not hold the information requested and notice is given under section 17 of the FOISA to this effect.

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.

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University of St Andrews
Butts Wynd (Building)
St Andrews

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KY16 9AJ

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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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