



Information Assurance and Governance  
Office of the Principal

10 November 2022

Dear Yu Yu

**Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**  
**Our Ref: 397-22**

I refer to your enquiry dated 13 October 2022 asking to be supplied with statistics for the 2021/22 admission cycle under the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA"):

- List of all undergraduate courses for 2021/22;
- Number of applicants (all undergraduate programmes);
- Number of offers made (all undergraduate programmes);
- Number of mainland Chinese applications and offers made (all undergraduate programmes).

Please find attached Appendix A which provides the following data:

- Table 1: Number (Full Time Equivalent) of Total Applications and Offers and those with Country of Domicile China for Undergraduate Programmes for entry in academic year 2021/22.

Figures are presented in the form of 'less than five' where the number of offers and in some instances, corresponding applications being reported on are small. There is a risk that reporting at a more granular level could result in the individuals concerned being identified revealing information of a personal nature where there is no expectation of this happening and release would therefore be unfair. This would contravene data protection principle 1(a) in Article 5(1) of the General Data Protection Regulation i.e. that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner.

Disclosure of information under the FOISA is release of information into the public domain and by extension, members of the University community. It is through this route that identification is most likely to occur when the data is taken in conjunction with other data that could potentially come into the possession of another.

The/

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foi@st-andrews.ac.uk

The exemption available at section 38(1)(b), *Personal Information* of the FOISA is being applied in this respect. This is an absolute exemption on not subject to the public interest test.

#### 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 timelines 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 at this time should be sent by email to [foi@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:foi@st-andrews.ac.uk) stating:

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

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>.

This concludes the University's response.

Yours sincerely

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Information Assurance and Governance Officer

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