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Via Email Only: [request-175521-103e8318@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-175521-103e8318@whatdotheyknow.com)

Friday, 4 October 2013

Dear Ms Clifford

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 request – A100 Medicine Admission Statistics 2012/2013.**

I am writing in response to your request of 5 September 2013 for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'). I am writing to advise you that we are refusing your request on the grounds of cost, under Section 12 (Exemption where costs of compliance exceeds "appropriate limit").

On behalf of the College I apologise for the slight delay in our response as this request was due on 3 September 2013.

You asked the following:

*"1) For each applicant who was unsuccessful in obtaining an interview, can I get a list of their UKCAT score, their GCSEs, and predicted A Level results and subjects studied.*

*2) For each applicant who was successful in obtaining an interview, can I get a list of their UKCAT score, their GCSEs, and predicted A Level results and subjects studied.*

*3) Can I get a list of criteria that the interviewers looked at during the interview to determine a candidate's suitability?*

*4) How was the interview scored? Was it a score out of 10 by each interviewer or anything along those lines?*

*5) For each applicant who was successful in obtaining an offer, can I get a list of their UKCAT score, their GCSEs, and predicted A Level results and subjects studied as well as their score in the interview stage?*

*6) I would also like any scoring or grading system used to assess interview performance and if a form or such is provided to interviewers to record performance is available*

*7) Can I get the interview scores for each successful candidate as well along with the interview scores for unsuccessful candidates in the spreadsheet requested above?"*

You have requested a significant amount of information, which the College's considers to be exempt from release under Section 12 of the Act and the Freedom of

Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. These set a limit on the amount of time which public authorities can be required to spend retrieving, extracting and formatting the information to respond to an FOIA request or linked series of requests. For Higher Education Institutes such as King's College London this is currently set at £450 which under the legislation equates to 18 hours of staff time at the rate of £25 per hour.

As per appendix 2 of our FoI Policy (Information Access Fees), where the cost of responding to a request in full exceeds the £450 limit, the College will not provide the information requested.

The College does not record interview details, predicted A-level results or UKCAT scores on a centralised database where it can be easily retrieved. In order for us to determine how many applicants were interviewed for A100, a manual check on each individual application would be required. The time taken is estimated at 2 weeks per academic cycle which would be well in excess of the appropriate limit. In addition, releasing the interview scoring system used would give an applicant an unfair competitive advantage over other applicants and would enable applicants to 'game the system' by crafting their applications in a way that was most likely to be successful based on the College's criteria and guidelines. This would consequently have a detrimental impact on the College's selection process, which is intended to select applicants based on qualifications and demonstrated ability.

Even if we conservatively estimated fifteen minutes to contact each of the roughly 198 department, the effort required to locate, extract and answer your whole request would be well in excess of the appropriate limit.

If you wish to refine and resubmit your request so that it reduces the cost to within the "appropriate limit" please contact me and I can provide some advice on refining your request.

This completes your request for information.

If you feel your request has not been properly handled or you are otherwise dissatisfied with the outcome of your request, you have the right to complain. Details of how to make a complaint can be found in our FoI Policy, a copy of which is available on our web site at:

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/college/policyzone/index.php?id=209>.

Further information is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 700

[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Crampton', with a large loop at the start and a horizontal flourish at the end.

Sarah Crampton  
Legal Compliance Officer