



**Information Compliance and Security Team**

B16 Lenton Hurst  
University of Nottingham  
University Park  
Nottingham  
NG7 2RD

Ms Elizabeth Bailey

4 August 2022

Reference: 1262345

Dear Ms Bailey

**Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I am pleased to provide some of the information you have requested. I have detailed below the information.

You asked-

Please may I request information relating to D100 Veterinary Admissions cycles 2022 and 2021?

1) How many students applied in total for D100 Veterinary Medicine (regardless of Sept/June cohorts) **1538**

2) How many applying students were offered an interview? **891**

3) How many students fulfilling Widening Participation criteria were offered an interview? (criteria as outlined on your website

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/applying/contextual-offers.aspx>) **144**

4) How many 'widening participation' students were offered a place on the next September intake? **52 commenced in September 2021**

5) How many 'widening participation' students were offered a place on the next April intake? **41 commenced in April 2022.**

We consider the information you have asked for in relation to the current admissions intake is exempt under Section 43 of the FOIA 2000, Commercial Interests, as we believe that disclosure would harm the commercial interests of the University of Nottingham.

The University of Nottingham is operating in a highly competitive environment, and in very challenging times. Regulatory changes in recent years, such as the lifting of the cap on university places in England, have increased competition between institutions. Universities all seek to recruit the best students from a limited pool of prospective UK and international applicants. The University must be able to participate freely and competitively in all its commercial activities and must protect its business activities.

As student recruitment is the core of our Business, this can be considered under both:

- Section 43(1) provides an exemption under FOIA for information which is a trade secret
- Section 43(2) exempts information whose disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity).



Responses to Freedom of Information requests are in the public domain and the disclosure of the requested information would be strategically useful to our competitors in the higher education sector in understanding the University's processes, and your request needs to be considered in the context of disclosure under competition legislation as well as under the Freedom of Information Act.

Releasing information mid-process is very misleading to applicants and causes a great deal of confusion, due to the competitive nature of the applications and admissions process we have decided that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. However, we will reconsider your request should you wish to re-submit this after the current admissions process has concluded.

Please quote the reference number 1262345 in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Please contact [info-requests@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:info-requests@nottingham.ac.uk) to request an internal review.

If you are still dissatisfied with the University's response after the internal review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF.  
Telephone: 0330 123 1113  
Email: [casewxxx@xxx.xxx.xx](mailto:casewxxx@xxx.xxx.xx)

I will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Allin  
Information Compliance and Quality Officer