



Information Assurance and Governance
Office of the Principal

14 March, 2019

Dear Mr Maison,

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Our Ref: 91-19

I refer to your enquiry dated 26 February, 2019 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA") looking to establish:

1. *The number of people that missed their offer in the years 2013/14/15/16/17/18 i.e. the number of people that got less than their offers and got accepted. Specifically for these courses:*
 - *Economics*
 - *Biology*
 - *Biology with Economics*
2. *The average grades people got in (i.e. joining the course) for the above courses.*

The University unable to answer your enquiry as the specific information requested is not held within our records.

We do not hold average A-level grade records in a reportable manner. To answer your enquiry would require records to be manually reviewed to locate and collate information of relevance where held. A level of data-analysis and intellectual input would also be involved that goes beyond the simple retrieval and collation of information resulting in new information being created which is out-with the provisions of the FOISA.

Section 17 of the FOISA requires that a Scottish public authority confirms in writing where information requested of it is not held and notice is therefore given to this effect.

Alternative data

From the records that we do hold, information was identified as being of some relevance to your enquiry and this is being supplied to you as an alternative. Please find below the average tariff point scoring system for the School of Biology; and the School of Economics and Finance.

Table 1/

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Table 1: Average UCAS Tariff Point score for full-time registered undergraduate entrants with UCAS-tariffable qualifications only, by School for academic year 2013/14 to 2018/19

Tariff	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
School of Biology	513	494	512	534	210	210
School of Economics and Finance	514	537	557	525	213	217

In relation to the data provided in the table above, please note:

- Not all qualifications have a UCAS tariff point score;
- 2017/18 and 2018/19 data uses the new tariff point scoring system implemented by UCAS in 2017/18; and
- 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17 use the old tariff scoring system.

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.

Freedom of Information / Environmental Information

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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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