

Information Assurance and Governance
Office of the Principal

19 November 2019

Dear Bhargavi,

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Our Ref: 447-19

I refer to your enquiry dated 5 November 2019 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 ("the FOISA") asking to be provided with:

- The grades at which students were offered a place for Physics degree after A-Level at your university for years 2018 and 2019.

The entry requirements for the BSc Physics programme is publicly available on our website as follows:

- 2019: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/archive/2019-2020/undergraduate/physics-bsc/> ; and
- 2018: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/subjects/archive/2018-2019/ug/physics-bsc/> .

Although the information relates specifically to the BSc programme, the entry requirements will be the same across all Physics programmes. The webpages also link to information on the requirements for direct entry to second year.

As you are being directed to information that is already publicly available, section 25(1), *Information otherwise accessible* of the FOISA is being applied. The University has responsibilities to the taxpayer and other stakeholders to provide value for money. Where the University has expended resource to proactively make information available from its Freedom of Information publication scheme and the public interest is best served by referring an applicant to that alternative source, then it will do so. Please note that this exemption is absolute and does not require validation through application of 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 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.

Information Assurance and Governance
01334 462776
foi@st-andrews.ac.uk

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
University of St Andrews
Butts Wynd (Building)
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9AJ

Email foi@st-andrews.ac.uk
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