



Ref. FOI/20200929/5

27 October 2020

Reply to request for information under the Freedom of Information Act	
Your ref	Email of 29 September 2020
Request	See annex.

Dear Ann Smith,

I write in reply to your email of Tuesday 29 September, requesting the information reproduced at the annex to this letter.

Item 1

There is not a specific number of places on courses at the University.

Items 2-5, 7-9, 11-13 and 15-18

Please find the requested information in the attached workbook.

Your request is for detailed individual level data. We consider that disclosure of this information in the form requested might enable those with access to other information or knowledge to identify individuals and learn new information about those individuals. For this reason, we have taken the following measures to reduce the risk of identification:

- We have provided data in regards to previous institutions (item 18) for the whole period requested, rather than for each year.
- We have provided data by college for the period as a whole rather than for individual years.

In taking these measures, we are applying the exemption in section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Section 40(2) provides an exemption from disclosure for information that is the personal data of an individual other than the requester, where disclosure would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We consider that disclosure of the information requested in the exact form requested would breach the first data protection principle, which requires that personal data is processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would be unfair to the individuals concerned, as it would be contrary to their reasonable and legitimate expectations. They would not reasonably expect that information relating to their application to Oxford would be made public under the FOIA without their consent.

For the disclosure of personal data to be lawful, it must have a lawful basis under Article 6 of the GDPR. There are six possible lawful bases in Article 6; we do not consider that any of them would be satisfied in respect of the disclosure.



The exemption in section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test provided for in section 2(2)(b) of the FOIA. To the extent that the public interest is relevant in this case, the University considers it is satisfied by the information provided.

Items 6, 10 and 14

The University does not give unconditional offers for postgraduate study.

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Team

ANNEX

I would like to ask for the following information about all of the full-time taught postgraduate (Masters) courses in the past 10 years:

(for each course and each year)

1. number of places on the course (can be approximate; the guiding figure used during admissions)
2. number of international applications
3. number of EU applications
4. number of UK applications
5. number of conditional offers made to international candidates
6. number of unconditional offers made to international candidates
7. number of unsatisfied conditional offers made to international candidates
8. number of enrolled international students
9. number of conditional offers made to EU candidates
10. number of unconditional offers made to EU candidates
11. number of unsatisfied conditional offers made to EU candidates
12. number of enrolled EU students
13. number of conditional offers made to UK candidates
14. number of unconditional offers made to UK candidates
15. number of unsatisfied conditional offers made to UK candidates
16. number of enrolled UK students
17. breakdown of the above information by different colleges (separate sheet for each college, within one document)
18. list of the institution awarding applicant's undergraduate degree, counts of the applicants from that institution and the application outcome