



26 May 2023

By email to: request-977191-afd79c2f@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Wendy Park

We refer to your Freedom of Information request received on 2 May 2023 about Animal Testing in 2022.

Details of any exemptions applied are below. Where any information is “not held”, this is explained below. Those parts of the University’s response (together with the details of how to ask the University to review the management of your request, or thereafter to seek a review by the Scottish Information Commissioner, should you wish to do so – please see below) constitutes the notice in writing that the information specified is not held by the University which is required under section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“FOISA”).

Your enquiry (**Bold**) and the University’s response (*Italics*)

1. Did your university conduct experiments on animals in the year 2022?

No. The University did not, and currently does not have a licence to conduct invasive tests on animals. It therefore did not conduct invasive experiments on animals in 2022. We do however conduct observational studies of primates and domestic animals in settings outwith the university for which a licence is not required.

2. How many animals were used in experiments (species & number of each)?

N/A

3. How many animals were bred on the premises (species & number of each)?

N/A

4. What was the nature and outcome of these experiments? *N/A*

5. What are the Home Office licence classifications for these experiments in terms of pain, lasting harm, etc. if classified (species & number of each)? *N/A*

6. Were the animals used for medical or non-medical research? *N/A*

7. Which departments of your university were or are engaged in such research? *N/A*

8. How many animals were killed without being used for experiments (species & a number of each)? *N/A*

9. How many animals were rehomed (species & number of each)? *N/A*
10. Of those that were not re-homed, why not? *N/A*
11. Does the university receive an income for performing animal research? *N/A*
12. Does the university incur any costs by performing animal research? *N/A*
13. Were there more non-animal research methods used than animal methods? **Eg. 70% where non-animal models were used and 30% where animal models were used. Yes. 100% (see answer to question 1 above)**
14. Which non-animal research methods are available at the university? **Eg. 3D printing, human skin cells, organ-on-a-chip.**
- *Isolated cells and tissues*
 - *Computer and mathematical modelling of bio-processes*
 - *Experimenting safely using human volunteers*
 - *Advanced techniques – robotics, molecular techniques, tissue engineering, technological modelling of organ processes*
 - *Encouraging other non-experimental methods e.g. relying on literature review etc*

This concludes the University's response.

Your right to seek a review of how your information request was managed

If you are not satisfied with our response or our reasoning set out above, you have 40 working days in which to require a review of our decision. Any such request should be put in writing and should be sent to the Vice Principal (Strategy and Governance) and University Secretary, Abertay University, at the address provided below.

Vice Principal (Strategy and Governance) and University Secretary
Abertay University
Bell Street
Dundee
DD1 1HG
Tel (01382) 308000
E-mail: FOI@abertay.ac.uk

The request should:

- (a) detail your request for a review of our decision to be undertaken
- (b) describe the nature of your original request
- (c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with, you also have the right, in terms of section 47 of FOISA, and within 6 months, to

apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether we have handled your request properly.

Information relating to your right to seek review is available from the Scottish Information Commissioner's website:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info>

or by contacting the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Scottish Information Commissioner,
Kinburn Castle,
Doubledykes Road, St Andrews,
Fife KY16 9DS
Telephone: 01334 464610
E-mail: enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info
Website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info>

Or via the SIC's online appeals service:

<https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/appeal>

If you are unhappy with the Commissioner's decision, you also have the right to appeal further to the Court of Session, on a point of law only, under section 56 of FOISA. Please refer to the Commissioner's website (details above) for further information about your right of appeal to the Court of Session.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Processing

Abertay University