

Dr Partridge
By email only to request-386483-9c956049@whatdotheyknow.com

28 February 2017

Dear Dr Partridge

Our ref: FOI-17-0025

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 February 2017, in which you requested the following information from the University of Sussex.

Request

Please provide the average full economic cost (to the university) of an undergraduate degree in engineering at the University. Please include all costs directly and indirectly associated with the activity e.g. including staff pension costs and IT costs. Please include all costs that can be reasonably attributed to the degree using the data that you have

Please break down your answer in two ways (a) by the seven UCAS classifications of engineering degrees (b) by cost type (e.g. payroll, IT, equipment etc) please break this information down into its natural and principal cost categories giving as much detail as is feasible.

FYI – UCAS classify engineering degrees into seven categories as follows

1. General engineering
2. Civil engineering
3. Mechanical engineering
4. Aerospace engineering
5. Electronic and electrical engineering
6. Production and manufacturing engineering
7. Chemical, process and energy engineering

If you do not have the complete information, please provide as much as possible.

Response

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

I can confirm that the University's last submitted TRAC(T) return recorded the cost of a "Funding Council Fundable Student full time equivalent (FTE)" for the HESA category "General Engineering" as £11,403 for the financial year 2014/15. The University does not hold the other information requested.

The University is only required to provide recorded information which it holds, as the Act does not require a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not already held, or to answer a question unless the information requested exists.

You can find out more about the relevant section of the Act, and some guidance points which the University has considered when applying the Act in this response, in the form of a Guidance Note attached to this letter.

If you are not satisfied with this response you may request a review but this must be within 40 days of receiving this response. In the first instance please write to Alexandra Elliott, the Head of Information Management and Compliance, at the address below. Full details of our Freedom of Information internal review procedure are at:

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/ogs/policies/information/foi/procedure>.

If you need to contact us about your request please quote your reference number FOI-17-0025

Yours sincerely,

Caitlin Molloy
Interim Information Officer
Information Management and Compliance

EXPLANATION OF FOIA

You will find additional information about Section 1(1) of the Act below. Some extracts from the legislation, as well as some of the guidance used when applying it is included.

Section 1 (1) General right of access to information held by public authorities.

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—

(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and.

(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

Section 3(2) Public authorities.

For the purposes of the Act, information is held by a public authority if:

- (i) it is held by the authority, otherwise than on behalf of another person, or
- (ii) it is held by another person on behalf of the authority.

Guidance

The University has an obligation to inform a requester whether it holds the information you have requested.

If the University does not hold the information requested, provided it provides notification to you pursuant to section 1(1)(a) of the Act, it is not under any further obligations.