



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE
Registrary's Office

Kirsty Allen MA, PhD
Head of Registrary's Office
Principal Assistant Registry

Ricky Chang
By email

Reference: FOI-2014-272 (Review)

20 August 2014

Dear Mr Chang,

Thank you for your email of 31 July 2014 requesting a review of the response dated 30 July 2014 supplied to you in respect of your request for information dated 16 July 2014. I now reply as the officer responsible for the internal review of the handling of such requests. The purpose of the internal review procedure is to ensure that the University has complied with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act').

In your email of 31 July 2014 you stated:

*I am writing to request an internal review of University of Cambridge's handling of my FOI request 'Economics Applicants'.
I believe that they should have at least attempted to complete one of my FOI requests, which is why I did them separately. I would like them to answer the very first FOI I sent if possible, which I believe will not go over the 18 hours as I have seen various others like that.*

I have considered all the circumstances of the case and have concluded that the Information Compliance Officer was correct to aggregate the recent requests listed in his letter, including your own, and to refuse them under Regulation 5 of the Fees Regulations. There is no doubt that to answer all of the requests would exceed 18 hours. There is also no doubt in my mind, given the repeated topic, content and tone of the requests received, that the various individuals submitting requests on the topic of admissions data for Economics in the 2012-13 and 2013-14 admissions cycles are acting in concert or in pursuance of a campaign.

For information on the workings of the Fees Regulations, including the aggregation of requests, please see the guidance published on the Information Commissioner's Office website at:
http://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/guidance_index/~media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf

Because of the way in which these Regulations work, the University is entitled to aggregate and refuse any further requests on these topics that are received within any sixty working day period.

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If you remain dissatisfied with the University's handling of this request or with the outcome of this review, you may raise the matter by way of appeal to the Information Commissioner who may be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (<http://www.ico.org.uk/>).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Allen', is positioned above the printed name.

Kirsty Allen