

I refer to your Freedom of Information request received on the 3rd July 2019.

Your Request

You asked:

- Do you offer special provisions for counselling services for students specific to bereavement?
- Do you offer any support or counselling services for students?
- Do you have an institution wide policy/guidance regarding caring for students following a bereavement?
- Do your policies or practices exclusively relate to support for students who have lost parents or does your support factor in other forms of bereavement, such as losing a sibling?
- Can you tell me what special provision you have for offering extensions and academic breaks in study after a bereavement?
- How much money did you allocate to counselling and support services for bereavement per year (Jan 2016-Jan 2019)?
- If you feel you would like to offer an opinion, would you say your institution feels you are offered enough from the Government in order to support students who have experienced bereavement while studying?

Our Response

We confirm that the information requested under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “Act”) is held by NCG and is provided below.

- Do you offer special provisions for counselling services for students specific to bereavement?
Yes where a specific need is identified.
- Do you offer any support or counselling services for students?
Yes, we have a part time counsellor based at the College
- Do you have an institution wide policy / guidance regarding caring for students following a bereavement?
No
- Do your policies or practices exclusively relate to support for students who have lost parents or does your support factor in other forms of bereavement, such as losing a sibling?
We have no specific policy however always aim to support learners as needed

- Can you tell me what special provision you have for offering extensions and academic breaks in study after a bereavement?

This would be handled on an individual basis following awarding body regulations.

- How much money did you allocate to counselling and support services for bereavement per year (Jan 2016-Jan 2019)?

The College does not specifically allocate funding to bereavement specifically. Instead, available funds are used to support students whatever their need.

- +If you feel you would like to offer an opinion, would you say your institution feels you are offered enough from the Government in order to support students who have experienced bereavement while studying?

Response not provided.

If you have any further enquiries about this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

David Balme

Executive Director of Governance, Assurance and Risk