



Information Assurance and Governance  
Office of the Principal

1 July 2019

Dear Ms Thomson,

**Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002**  
**Our Ref: 228-19**

I refer to your enquiry dated 3 June 2019 under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (“the FOISA”) asking to be supplied with the amount received in undergraduate tuition fees in each of the last six years for:

1. Scottish domiciled students
2. RUK students (England, Wales & NI)
3. EU students
4. Non-EU/ overseas students.

The information requested is not recorded in such a way that enables the University to answer your enquiry fully through the process of locating and retrieving data. For example, as there is no difference in the fee status of Home and EU students, tuition fees from these cohort of students are combined and recorded in our financial records together. To split this data down to be able to report tuition fees for Scottish domiciled and EU students separately, would require colleagues in two separate departments having to produce data from separate data sources which would then have to be matched up and pulled together into one single dataset for further analysis and interrogation.

The level of intellectual input, cross-referencing information from various sources goes beyond the provisions of the FOISA requiring new information to be created which is out with the provisions of the FOISA. This is consistent with the conclusion reached by the Scottish Information Commissioner such in Decision 036/2005 *Mr George Munro and Inverclyde Council*, when the question as to what constitutes the creation of information was considered.

Section 17 of the FOISA requires that a Scottish public authority confirms in writing where information requested of it is not held and notice is therefore given to this effect.

Advice and Assistance

For your information, details of tuition fees are published as part of the University’s Financial Statements each year. Our Financial Statements can be found on our website at: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/staff/money/financialstatements/> . In particular, please refer to Note 1, *Tuition Fees and Education contracts* (page 47, 2017/18 Financial Statements) which

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gives the amount received in tuition fees for Home/EU students, RUK students and International students. We can look to provide you with the information reported in the Financial Statements broken down to show the amount of tuition fees for Undergraduate and Postgraduate students separately i.e. for each student category: Full-time home and EU undergraduate students; Full-time Postgraduate home and EU students; Full-time international undergraduate students; Full-time international postgraduate students etc. If you would like to be provided with this alternative data please let me know and I will arrange for this to be processed where possible to do so.

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

If you are not satisfied with the University's response and/or our reasoning set-out above, you have the right to request a review of our decision. The time lines in which this right is available are set out in section 20(5)(a) and (b) FOISA. In broad terms the right to seek a review must be exercised within 40 working days of receiving this response.

Any request for review should be put in writing or some other permanent form e.g. an e-mail and should be sent to the University of St Andrews, through the contact details provided below.

A request for a Review should:

- a) state your name and address;
- b) describe the nature of your original request; and
- c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

Freedom of Information / Environmental Information  
University of St Andrews  
Butts Wynd (Building)  
St Andrews  
Fife  
KY16 9AJ

Email [foi@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:foi@st-andrews.ac.uk)  
Telephone +44(0)1334 462776

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with following Review, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner (SIC) for a decision. In the event of an appeal to the SIC, the Commissioner will generally only be able to investigate the matters raised in the request for review.

Details on how to make an appeal online to the SIC can be found on their website: <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>

Alternatively, you can contact the SIC by post, telephone or email at:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews  
Fife KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610  
E-mail: [enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info)  
Website: [www.itspublicknowledge.info](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info)

This concludes the University's response.

Yours sincerely

**JUNE WEIR**  
Information Assurance and Governance Officer

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