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20 October 2014

Ms A Anstis

BY E-MAIL ONLY: request-233770-  
69e6e49a@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Ref : F/364

Your Ref :

Dear Ms Anstis

## Request for Information

I refer to your recent request for information received by Ofqual on 10 October 2014 made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). You requested the following information:-

*Under the Freedom of Information Act please supply the following:*

*Number of scripts returned following the Summer 2014 examinations (all Boards, nationally) as a % of those taken*

*Number of remark requests following the Summer 2014 examinations (all Boards, nationally) as a % of those taken*

*The cost of the above*

*The % of schools returning or requesting the above*

*The % of grades that changed/went up on remark*

*Please provide the information by subject Please provide comparisons between Summer 2014 and Summer 2013 examinations (all Boards, nationally).*

Under the Act, public authorities have two duties to individuals requiring information: firstly to confirm whether or not they hold the information requested, and secondly to provide a copy of that information unless one of the exemptions under the Act applies.

I confirm that on this occasion some information of the type you have requested is held by Ofqual. It should be noted that the Enquiries After Results process is undertaken by exam boards. Ofqual collects some data on the process and publishes a statistical

on the process. Your questions with Ofqual's response noted underneath are set out below.

*Number of scripts returned following the Summer 2014 examinations (all Boards, nationally) as a % of those taken*

Ofqual does not collect data on requests for Access to Scripts requests from exam boards and so does not hold the information requested at this part of your request.

*Number of remark requests following the Summer 2014 examinations (all Boards, nationally) as a % of those taken*

Ofqual holds information on the number of requests for scripts to be remarked as a percentage of those taken. However, Ofqual is planning to publish this information and an interim report is scheduled to be published on Tuesday 21 October 2014 and the final report due for publication on 10 December 2014. As the information is intended for future publication the exemption under section 22 of the act, is being invoked. The exemption under section 22 of the act is a qualified exemption and as such subject to the public test. Ofqual has considered whether in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information. In reaching our decision we have considered the following factors in favour and against disclosure:-

factors in favour of disclosing the information are:-

- to promote transparency; and
- to allow public debate of current issues

factors against disclosure are:-

- Ofqual has already made a firm commitment to publish this information;
- work is underway to publish this information in the near future, accelerating this work to meet FOI timescales would divert resources from away from work underway in relation to A Level reform;
- the proposed date of publication (later this week and early December 2014) is reasonable; and
- It is fair that this information should be disclosed to all interested parties at the same time, rather than provided in advance to one individual



In the circumstances of the case we have therefore reached the decision that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than in disclosing it.

Past reports of this type are available to view on Ofqual's website at <http://ofqual.gov.uk/standards/statistics/enquiries-about-results/>

*The cost of the above*

Ofqual does not collect information on costs from exam boards and so does not hold information of the type requested at this part of your request. However details of costs for Enquiries After Results are available on exam board websites for example see <http://www.aqa.org.uk/exams-administration/about-results/post-results/fees-and-payments>

*The % of schools returning or requesting the above*

Ofqual does not collect information on the schools that have requested post results services and so does not hold information of the type requested at this part of your request.

*The % of grades that changed/went up on remark*

Ofqual holds information on the percentage of grades that changed on remark. However, Ofqual is planning to publish this information and an interim report is scheduled to be published on Tuesday 21 October 2014 and the final report due for publication on 10 December 2014. As the information is intended for future publication the exemption under section 22 of the Act, is being invoked. The exemption at section 22 of the Act is outlined above and also applies to this part of your information request.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled you have the right to request an internal review. You can request an internal review by contacting:-

Alison Townsend  
Board Secretariat Manager  
Ofqual  
Spring Place  
Coventry Business Park  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry, CV5 6UB  
([alison.townsend@ofqual.gov.uk](mailto:alison.townsend@ofqual.gov.uk)).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner. Complaints to the Information Commissioner should be sent to:-

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution  
Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Townsend', written in a cursive style.

**Alison Townsend**  
Board Secretariat Manager