

By email only: Steven Carter request-721027f82a6462@whatdotheyknow.com

Charity Commission PO Box 211 Bootle L20 7YX

Your ref:

Our ref: C-536491

Date: 15 February 2021

Dear Mr Carter

## Freedom of Information: St Mary's University Twickenham

Thank you for your email of 26 January 2021 requesting information from the Charity Commission. Your request has been managed in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "FOIA").

## You write:

"The Charity Commission wrote to St Mary's University on the 19th of November 2020 and the Charity Commission received an in-depth and detailed explanation on the 14th December 2020 - can you please publish these 2 letters under an FOI request?"

The Commission considers the exemption at Section 14(2) of the FOIA is applicable to your request.

14 (2) provides that where a public authority has previously complied with a request for information which was made by any person, it is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from that person unless a reasonable interval has elapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

The information you have requested would have been caught by your request for "Can you please send me all documentation that you have exchanged with St Mary's University that references this breach of consumer law and/or the rationale of charging students for vacated rooms up to the 8th April 2020".

This request was received 27 December 2020 and a full response was issued 26 January 2020. Disclosure was refused as it was considered exemptions applied to the information.

You requested a review of this decision on 26 January. I am undertaking that review and will respond to you in due course about the Commission's handling of this FOI request and the exemptions that have been applied.

Your email request dated 26 January 2020 effectively asks for the same information as would have been caught by your first request for all documentation between the Commission and the charity regarding the issue of charges for rooms.

The Commission considers your request of the 26 January for copies of the two letters referred to is therefore a repeated request. There has not been a reasonable amount of time elapsed between the requests to enable it to consider your request as a new request and therefore Section 14(2) is engaged.

This letter is a formal refusal under Section 17 of the FOIA and your request will not be processed further.

This completes your information request.

Yours sincerely

Katherine O'Hare Information Rights & Complaints Manager Charity Commission

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request or the decision which has been reached, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests must be submitted within two months of the date of this response and should be addressed to the Charity Commission at PO Box 211, Bootle, L20 7YX (email:RIGA@charitycommission.gov.uk).

If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you are able to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our review procedure. The ICO can be contacted at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF (email: casework@ico.org.uk).