

By e-mail Johanna Langheld
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Freedom of Information Office
4 West
University of Bath
Claverton Down
Bath
BA2 7AY

19 March 2021

Dear Ms Langheld

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 2000 – 2021/062

Your request was received on 22 February 2021 and handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000. It is copied with the answers annotated below for your reference.

Section 1(1) usually entitles you to be told whether the requested information is held and have that information provided to you unless it is judged to be exempt from disclosure.

'A 'serious incident' is an adverse event, with significant harmful or potentially harmful consequences, and/or where the effectiveness of the university response is likely to have a significant impact on the health, wellbeing or welfare of a student, their family and/or the community.

Serious incidents should be investigated, in order to identify any factors that might have contributed towards the incident occurring, and the fundamental issues (or root causes) that underpin them. It affords a no-blame opportunity to review what happened; what was done well/ the good practise points; areas of concern, if there are any, and importantly what lessons can be learned.

UUK's Suicide-Safer Universities (2018) guidance recommends that serious incident investigations be conducted following a student death. The need for such a report has been highlighted by Ministers and at least one Coroner. The sharing of experiences, best practises and relevant knowledge with others is similarly advocated. Serious incident investigations should also as a matter of course be carried out in cases of attempted suicide, near misses, parasuicide, and non-suicidal self-injury.

So, with regard to the health, wellbeing or welfare of one or more students. For each of the academic periods 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21:

a) *How many serious incident investigations has the University of Bath conducted?*

ANSWER: 2018-19: 4
2019-20: 3
2020-21: 6

b) *How many serious incident reports has the University of Bath produced?*

ANSWER: 2018-19: 1
2019-20: 2
2020-21: 4

c) *How many serious incidents involved a fatality?*

ANSWER: 2018-19: 4
2019-20: 3
2020-21: 4

d) *How many serious incident reports and/or their findings has the University of Bath shared with other institutions?*

ANSWER: 2018-19: zero
2019-20: zero
2020-21: zero

e) *How many serious incident reports and/or their findings have other institutions shared with you?*

ANSWER: 2018-19: zero
2019-20: zero
2020-21: Zero

The University has convened a student suicide action group to identify and implement mechanisms to prevent student suicide and improve care of the student and staff community.

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of how your request was handled you may ask the University to conduct an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt by you of this response. Requests received outside this period will only be considered at the University's discretion and where there is a valid reason to do so.

Applications for internal review should be emailed to: The Freedom of Information Team, freedom-of-information@bath.ac.uk or addressed in writing to University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7AY.

If you remain dissatisfied you may appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Further details of this process are available via the following link: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/> Please note that the Information Commissioner will only consider appeals once the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely



D Bean
Freedom of Information Officer