

Mr Steve Blunn

By email only to request-513388-4c20f637@whatdotheyknow.com

19 September 2018

Dear Mr Blunn,

Our ref: FOI-18-0209

Thank you for your correspondence of 28 August 2018, in which you requested the following information from the University of Sussex.

Request

Could you please provide your projections for the number of full-time students expected to attend the institution over the next 5 years, or as far forward as you have projections for?

Where possible can this be split by full-time undergraduates and full-time postgraduates per campus.

For example:

2018: X full-time undergraduates and X full-time postgraduates

2019: X full-time undergraduates and X full-time postgraduates:

Response

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

The University is unable to comply with your request as it does not hold the information that you have requested.

The University is only required to provide recorded information which it holds, as the Act does not require a public authority to create information to answer a request if the requested information is not already held, or to answer a question unless the information requested exists.

Whilst the University will hold *some* of the raw data required to produce the student number projections you have requested, the projections themselves are not solely dependent on that raw data that is already held.

There are a number of factors which influence projected numbers; as discussions are ongoing and the University is currently in the process of confirming sign-off of a new Strategic Framework via the Governance process, a set of agreed projections does not exist (and will not exist until this is completed).

You can find out more about the relevant section of the Act, and some guidance points which the University has considered when applying the Act in this response, in the form of a Guidance Note attached to this letter.

If you are not satisfied with this response you may request a review but this must be within 40 days of receiving this response. In the first instance please write to Alexandra Elliott, the Head of Information Management and Compliance, at the address below. Full details of our Freedom

of Information internal review procedure are at:
<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/ogs/policies/information/foi/procedure>.

If you need to contact us about your request please quote your reference number FOI-18-0209.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy Pattenden
Information Officer
Information Management and Compliance

EXPLANATION OF FOIA

You will find additional information about Section 1(1) of the Act below. Some extracts from the legislation, as well as some of the guidance used when applying it is included.

Section 1 (1) General right of access to information held by public authorities.

Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled—

(a) to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request, and

(b) if that is the case, to have that information communicated to him.

Section 3(2) Public authorities.

For the purposes of the Act, information is held by a public authority if:

(i) it is held by the authority, otherwise than on behalf of another person, or

(ii) it is held by another person on behalf of the authority.

Guidance

The University has an obligation to inform a requester whether it holds the information you have requested.

If the University does not hold the information requested, provided it provides notification to you pursuant to section 1(1)(a) of the Act, it is not under any further obligations.