



**By e-mail:** Basia Cummings  
request-532037-2dc9ff94@whatdotheyknow.com

Office of the University Secretary  
4 West  
University of Bath  
Claverton Down  
Bath  
BA2 7AY

10 December 2018

Dear Ms Cummings

**Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 2000 – 2018/309**

Your request was received on 12 November 2018 and handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000. It is copied and numbered below for your reference.

*"1. I would like to know the University's annual budget for student mental health services for the academic years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18.*

*2. I would like to know the number of students enrolled at the University between the academic years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18.*

*3. I would like to know the number of students who have been enrolled in and treated by student mental health services in the academic years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18."*

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.

Question 1

It is not possible to break down our overall student welfare budget to show spending purely on mental health support. Students seek advice and help for a variety of reasons, including mental health, from staff who work across a range of issues, and it is not possible to disaggregate our staff and infrastructure spending in the way requested.

The figures below therefore include expenditure (not in order of spend) on our Student Services (including disability support), Counselling and Mental Health service, Chaplaincy, Learning Support, and residential student support for the years for which there are fully audited accounts:

2012/13 - £1,058,000  
2013/14 - £1,128,000  
2014/15 - £1,228,000  
2015/16 - £1,405,000  
2016/17 - £1,811,000  
2017/18 - £2,263,000

In addition, the University of Bath currently provides a block grant to the University's Students' Union which partially funds some of their welfare services.

## Question 2

From 2012/13 to 2017/18 the number of students enrolled at the University of Bath increased from 15,449 to 17,646. Further information about student numbers by year is provided here: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/student-records/statistics/index.htm> This is covered by the section 21 exemption of the FOIA, which relates to information accessible to the applicant by other means.

## Question 3

The figures held for the years below are the total number of students who applied for university-run Counselling and/or Mental Health services:

2012/13: 674  
2013/14: 758  
2014/15: 898  
2015/16: 936  
2016/17: 1,089

Whilst the majority of the numbers above would have resulted in individual sessions, individual or group session data for the years above was not formally recorded and it has been reasonably estimated that to try and examine each case file to find if there is data to compile would exceed the 18 hour limit. This is therefore withheld under section 12 of the FOIA which states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit.

From 2016/17 recording of session data changed.  
871 were individual sessions and 218 were group programmes or workshops.

In 2017/18, 1092 students had a 'first' therapeutic consultation for the last academic year. From 2017/18 students were able to book straight into their first Therapeutic consultation. For services provided by the University see: [www.bath.ac.uk/groups/counselling-mental-health/](http://www.bath.ac.uk/groups/counselling-mental-health/)

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 addressed in writing to: The University Secretary, University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7AY or e-mail [M.G.W.Humphriss@bath.ac.uk](mailto:M.G.W.Humphriss@bath.ac.uk).

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/concerns/getting/>  
Please note that the Information Commissioner will only consider appeals once the internal review has been completed.

Yours sincerely



Delia Bean  
Freedom of Information Officer