

Dear Adam Hodgson,

**Freedom of Information Request Ref: F20\_169**

Thank you for your request for information from the University of York. Please see our response below.

**1. The subsidies provided by the university, to external bus companies operating university bus routes, for the last 5 complete academic years (2014/15 to 2018/19), broken down by the following where possible:**

**o Student travel**

**o University staff travel**

**o Any other subsidy provided**

**If the breakdown is not possible, a single subsidy figure for each academic year would be acceptable.**

Information held.

However, the University considers that the details of compensation arrangements was provided in confidence to the University by First Bus and is therefore exempt from disclosure under s41(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (FoIA), 2000. The University has contacted First Bus in relation to the application of this exemption and they consider the information in question to be part of their original business case and part of the agreement for bus service. They consider that should the information be released they would initiate an action for breach of confidence against the University which, on the balance of probabilities, would succeed. Section 41(1) of the FoIA is an absolute exemption and does not require a public interest test.

**2. The expenditure on, and income from, any university provided bus services, including shuttle buses, for the last 5 complete academic years (2014/15 to 2018/19), broken down by the following where possible:**

**o Student travel**

**o University staff travel**

**o Bus staff salary**

**o Equipment costs, covering vehicles and facilities**

**o Any other operating costs**

**If the breakdown is not possible, a single expenditure and single income figure for each academic year would be acceptable.**

Information not held. The University does not provide any bus services.

**3. The number of complaints received by the university regarding university bus services, for the last 5 complete academic years (2014/15 to 2018/19).**

Information not held. As we do not operate a University bus service, all complaints about bus companies go straight to the bus company.

In accordance with the provisions of section 17(4) of the Freedom of Information Act this letter acts as a Refusal Notice in respect of the information withheld under section 41(1) above.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted in writing to the Information Governance Officer at [foi@york.ac.uk](mailto:foi@york.ac.uk) or the address above, detailing your grounds for appeal/complaint. A full copy of our review procedure can be found at <http://www.york.ac.uk/records-management/foi/foi-policy/foi-complaints/>.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

I hope this information is useful.

Yours sincerely,

**Information Governance Team**