



Department
for Education

Part of the Higher Education – Strategy
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Name: Neil Davies

www.gov.uk/dfe

Email enquiry form:

www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

04 March 2022

Ref: 2021-0051435

Dear Neil Davies

Thank you for your request for information, which was received on 4 February 2022.

You requested:

Please could you send a copy of the agreement between the USS and DfE relating to the OfS support for the USS covenant? Please send all information provided as part of John Ralfe's request on the same topic.

I have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

I can confirm that the Department for Education holds the information requested.

A copy of the information which can be disclosed is enclosed.

However, I advise you that parts of the information you requested are being withheld under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The exemption that applies to this information is:

- Section 40(2) (personal data)

This means the information has redactions to which we are applying section 40(2) (personal data). Personal data is that which relates to a living individual who can be identified from that data, or from that data and other information which is likely to be in, or to come into, the possession of the requestor. Disclosure of this information would contravene a number of the data protection principles in the General Data Protection Regulations/Data Protection Act 2018, and would be regarded as 'unfair'. By that, we mean the likely expectations of the data subject that his or her information would not be disclosed to others and the effect which disclosure would have on the data subject. Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption and is not subject to the public interest test.

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If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled, you should make a complaint to the Department by writing to me within two calendar months of the date of this letter. Your complaint will be considered by an independent review panel, who were not involved in the original consideration of your request. If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint to the Department, you may then contact the Information Commissioner's Office.

Yours sincerely,

Higher Education Briefing Team
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