

**From:** Freedom of Information

**Sent:** 17 September 2020 16:02

**To:**

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/306)

Dear

**Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/306)**

Thank you for your clarified Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 26 August 2020, reference K/20/306.

Your request read:

“I would like to request information from the University's Medical School please under FOI conditions. If this is not the correct email address, could you please let me know or redirect this information on?”

1. How many medical students at the University identify as Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic, and how many students are there in total at the University?
2. How many formal complaints of racial harassment and discrimination have been recorded in the Medical school in the individual academic years of;
  - 2015/16
  - 2016/17
  - 2017/18
  - 2018/19
  - 2019/20 \*total of the year so far\*
3. Of these complaints, how many resulted in an investigation by the University?”

We wrote to you on 26 August 2020 seeking clarification on the timeframe relevant to question one of your request. Your clarification email read:

“All years [listed in question two] please.”

The University of Leeds holds this information. For your convenience we have responded to each of your questions in turn below.

- 1. How many medical students at the University identify as Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic, and how many students are there in total at the University? [for each of the years 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18; 2018/19; 2019/20 \*total of the year so far\*]**

Please find this information disclosed in the attached spreadsheet.

- 2. How many formal complaints of racial harassment and discrimination have been recorded in the Medical school in the individual academic years of;**
  - **2015/16**
  - **2016/17**
  - **2017/18**
  - **2018/19**
  - **2019/20 \*total of the year so far\***
- 3. Of these complaints, how many resulted in an investigation by the University?**

We address these questions together.

The University of Leeds holds this information. However, because the numbers are very small, we are withholding the exact figure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act.

Section 40(2) sets out that information is exempt from disclosure if it is the personal data of someone other than the person making the request, and disclosure would; contravene the data protection principles; contravene an objection to processing; or if the data is exempt from the right of subject access. We consider that the release of this information would be likely to lead to the identification of individuals, and would therefore reveal sensitive information regarding complaints they have made. Complaints processes are, by their nature, confidential, and individuals who engage in complaints processes have a reasonable expectation of that confidentiality. This would be unfair and would therefore breach their data protection rights.

However, in the hope that it is helpful, we can provide a total figure, without breaking the information down per year. Over the timeframe you have set out, there have been a total of four complaints, of which one was referred by the School to the University level for investigation.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on [foi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:foi@leeds.ac.uk)

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle  
Deputy Secretary  
The University of Leeds  
Leeds  
LS2 9JT

Email: [foi@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:foi@leeds.ac.uk)

Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University's response to your request. Further information about how

the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website ([www.leeds.ac.uk](http://www.leeds.ac.uk)).

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. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Kind regards

**Chloe Wilkins**

Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat

University of Leeds