

From: Freedom of Information

Sent: 09 October 2020 15:43

To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/353)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/353)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 14 September 2020, reference K/20/353.

Your request read:

- 1) "What is the total tonnage of food procured by the university for its catered students?"
- 2) What is the total tonnage of food that is not consumed and is sent to waste?
- 3) What is the total cost of food procured by the university for its catered students?
- 4) What is the average percentage of food procured by the university for its catered students that ends up as waste?
- 5) What waste or redistribution streams does the university use for its uneaten food; no waste redistribution stream; redistributed to local homeless charities or to students; sent to Anaerobic Digestion; sent for incineration; sent to be composted?
- 6) If redistributed, what percentage of food waste ends up in the redistribution stream?
- 7) In kilograms, what is the average portion of food per meal per catered students?
- 8) How many students are catered for by the university?
- 9) What is the average cost per meal for catered students?"

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

1) What is the total tonnage of food procured by the university for its catered students?

We do not record the amount of food we purchase by tonnage, and cannot specifically identify food which is purchased for catered students.

2) What is the total tonnage of food that is not consumed and is sent to waste?

It is our understanding that this question is intended to be read in conjunction with question one (i.e. of the food referred to in question one, how much is not consumed and is sent to waste). Please advise us if this interpretation is incorrect.

We do not record this information. We do hold information in relation to food waste, but this will include food brought in by staff and students from home, food from catered events etc. and we cannot isolate food waste which was originally purchased for catered students.

3) What is the total cost of food procured by the university for its catered students?

We do not procure food specifically for catered students. Catered students in Lyddon Hall and Eilerslie Global Residences are allocated a daily food credit which can be spent in the Refectory restaurant and/or the Hugo café, both of which are open to other members of the university community, and the public. Catered students in Devonshire Hall are served meals at set times, but Devonshire Hall also provides catered food for meetings and conferences. As such, the cost of food consumed by catered students cannot be isolated from the cost of food consumed by other patrons.

4) What is the average percentage of food procured by the university for its catered students that ends up as waste?

We do not record this information. As outlined above, we cannot isolate food (either purchased or which ends up as waste) which was originally for catered students.

5) What waste or redistribution streams does the university use for its uneaten food; no waste redistribution stream; redistributed to local homeless charities or to students; sent to Anaerobic Digestion; sent for incineration; sent to be composted?

The University forecasts the procurement, prepping and cooking of food according to customer requirements and historical data trends in order to ensure that food waste is minimised. For the food waste that does occur, there are a number of ways in which we are working to ensure the food is redistributed. Food left over at the end of the day is posted on the 'Too Good To Go' app enabling users of the app to purchase the food at a lower cost. Uneaten food that is still suitable for consumption is sent to various homeless charities across the city, including Seacoles. Food waste, either cooked food, food scrapes from plates or food unsuitable for consumption is sent to an AD plant, through ReFood. Devonshire Halls (and conferencing centre) undertakes similar processes although they use a different contractor to send food to an AD plant and source their own charities to send their non-perishable food too. As per the other responses the quantities of food are not recorded, nor are they separated for the catered students specifically.

6) If redistributed, what percentage of food waste ends up in the redistribution stream?

All food that can still be consumed ends up in the redistribution stream, being transferred both to local homeless charities and the Too Good To Go App. All other food waste is captured through the waste stream sending it to the AD plant. We cannot isolate this information to state the percentages of where they are sent.

7) In kilograms, what is the average portion of food per meal per catered students?

As above, we cannot isolate this information.

8) How many students are catered for by the university?

On average 1100 students reside in catered accommodation per year.

9) What is the average cost per meal for catered students?

As above, we cannot isolate this information.

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

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

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).

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

