

From: Freedom of Information

Sent: 18 December 2020 17:53

To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/481)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/481)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 20 November 2020 reference K/20/481.

Your request read:

1. "The number of students who have faced disciplinary action by the institution since the start of 2020-21 academic year for breaching Covid guidelines
2. Please can you breakdown what action these students faced for breaking the university's Covid rules. For example, how many of these students received fines from the university and how many were suspended
3. Please can you breakdown how much each fine was and the reason why it was issued
4. Please can you provide the date (or failing that the week or month) that the incident took place."

The University of Leeds hold some information relevant to your request.

The University is advising and encouraging all members of the university community to follow national and local government guidelines, rules and the law as it applies to them. It is for students (and staff) to ensure they follow the relevant rules, with the University taking appropriate disciplinary action where any failures to follow rules, laws and guidelines constitute breaches of our own disciplinary regulations.

For your convenience, we have answered each of your questions in turn below.

1. The number of students who have faced disciplinary action by the institution since the start of 2020-21 academic year for breaching Covid guidelines

Between the beginning of the new academic year and 2 December 2020, a total of 308 incidents relating to covid-19 guidelines have been reported to us. All incidents will be investigated with appropriate and proportionate action taken as deemed necessary. In some cases, multiple people may be associated with the same incident (for instance, in cases where social distancing has not been observed) and as such the number of incidents is not necessarily the same as the number of students who have been involved.

2. Please can you breakdown what action these students faced for breaking the university's Covid rules. For example, how many of these

students received fines from the university and how many were suspended

In the same timeframe, a total of 506 fines have been issued to students for breaches of covid-19 guidelines. This figure excludes any successful appeals.

We can advise that four students have been suspended for holding a party in university accommodation.

3. Please can you breakdown how much each fine was and the reason why it was issued

Fines range from £25 to £350, depending on the nature of the offence. We do not hold individual records showing the reason each individual fine was issued. The total value of fines issued in this time frame is £34,760.

4. Please can you provide the date (or failing that the week or month) that the incident took place.

Please find a breakdown by month of the 308 covid-related incidents reported to us between the start of the academic term and 2 December 2020 disclosed in the table below:

| Month | Count |
|-----------|-------|
| September | 142 |
| October | 151 |
| November | 86 |
| December | 1 |

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