

**From:** Freedom of Information

**Sent:** 18 December 2020 18:25

**To:**

**Subject:** Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/493)

Dear

**Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/493)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 25 November 2020, reference K/20/493.

Your request read:

1. "Total university and/or SU spending on activities in fresher's week in i) 2018 ii) 2019 iii) 2020
2. Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases at the University in 2020 per month
3. Total amount spent on accommodation cleaning (in house and contracted) in i) January 2018- December 2018 ii) January 2019- December 2019 iii) January 2020-December 2020
4. Number of students fined (and how much) for breaking COVID-19 guidelines per month"

The University of Leeds holds/does not hold/may hold/holds some of this information.

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

- 1. Total university and/or SU spending on activities in fresher's week in**
  - i) 2018**
  - ii) 2019**
  - iii) 2020**

We are not clear what activities would fall within the scope of this part of your request. Many activities take place during the first weeks of term, but only some of these are aimed at new students.

We can advise that the majority of social activities aimed at new starters (e.g. introductions to clubs and societies) are organised by the Leeds University Union (LUU). The University of Leeds and LUU are separate organisations. As such, we do not hold any information regarding LUU's spend on freshers' week activity.

We would be grateful if you could clarify what information you require from the University of Leeds. Please set out the types of activities which you consider fall within the scope of this part of your request, and what would constitute 'spend' (for instance, would overhead costs and staff salaries be included?). Once clarification has been received, we can review the information we hold and provide you with a response to this question.

## 2. Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases at the University in 2020 per month

The University of Leeds started to record and publish the number of positive covid-19 cases in the university community in September 2020. We therefore do not hold any information which pre-dates this. We would also highlight that the vast majority of staff and students left campus in March 2020, not returning until the beginning of the new academic year.

You can access the published information on [our website](#)

## 3. Total amount spent on accommodation cleaning (in house and contracted) in

i) January 2018- December 2018

ii) January 2019- December 2019

iii) January 2020-December 2020

Please find this information set out in the table below.

	2018	2019	2020
<b>Total Cleaning</b>	£1,370,401	£1,351,143	£1,262,412

Please note that, for 2020 spend, costs for November and December are estimated, as final bills have not yet been received. However, as the majority of cleaning is on an external contract billed monthly in equal instalments, the actual final figure is unlikely to be significantly different to that which is provided in the table above. We also would like to highlight that the cost of cleaning is lower in 2020 than in previous years, despite increased cleaning regimes, as unlike in previous years there were no summer conferences and no student vacation business during the summer of 2020, each of which typically incur substantial cleaning costs for room turnarounds/preparation.

## 4. Number of students fined (and how much) for breaking COVID-19 guidelines per month

The information we hold in relation to this part of your request is limited to the current academic year. As outlined above, almost all students left campus in March 2020, and did not return until the beginning of the new academic year.

The information we hold is set out in the table below:

Value of fine	September 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020	TOTAL
<b>£25</b>	1	0	0	0	1
<b>£30</b>	0	0	2	0	2
<b>£50</b>	81	165	104	0	350
<b>£75</b>	0	0	1	0	1
<b>£100</b>	13	88	41	1	143
<b>£300</b>	0	0	7	0	7
<b>£350</b>	0	0	2	0	2

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>506</b>
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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