

From: Freedom of Information

Sent: 18 December 2020 18:28

To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/500)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/500)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 1 December 2020, reference K/20/500.

Your request read:

“I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the use of the "immigration exemption" under Schedule 2 Part 1 Paragraph 4 of the Data Protection Act 2018. I ask you to provide me with:

1. The number of subject access requests (Article 15 General Data Protection Regulation) made under the Data Protection Act 2018 in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

If feasible, please also provide the number of these requests that were immigration-related presented in the same timeline (2018 - 2019 - 2020).

2. The number of times information was redacted from the response to a subject access request on the basis of Schedule 2 Part 1 Para 4 of the Data Protection Act 2018 (the immigration exemption) in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

3. The number of times appeals were made against the restriction in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

4. The number of times those appeals were overturned in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020”

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

1. The number of subject access requests (Article 15 General Data Protection Regulation) made under the Data Protection Act 2018 in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

If feasible, please also provide the number of these requests that were immigration-related presented in the same timeline (2018 - 2019 - 2020).

We do not hold information in relation to Data Subject Access Requests (DSARs) which were immigration related. The total number of DSARs received per year is set out in the table below.

	2018	2019	2020 (to 30 September)
Number of DSAR requests	21	33	30

2. The number of times information was redacted from the response to a subject access request on the basis of Schedule 2 Part 1 Para 4 of the Data Protection Act 2018 (the immigration exemption) in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

3. The number of times appeals were made against the restriction in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

4. The number of times those appeals were overturned in:

- a) 2018
- b) 2019
- c) by 30th September 2020

We address these questions together.

We do not keep a collated record of exemptions relied upon in DSAR responses. While it may be possible to establish which exemptions were used by reviewing individual DSAR responses, copies of DSAR requests and responses are securely destroyed after 18 months in line with our records retention schedule. This manual review would be very time consuming, and therefore exceed the appropriate limit as set out at [section 12 of the FOI Act](#).

However, anecdotally we can advise that we are not aware of DSARs in which information was redacted on the basis of the immigration exemption during the timeframe of your request. As a university, it is extremely unlikely that this exemption

would be applicable in the majority of DSAR cases we handle. We are therefore satisfied that, on the balance of probabilities, we do not hold any information regarding these parts of your request.

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