From: Freedom of Information  
Sent: 27 July 2020 18:07  
To:  
Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/231)  

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/231)  

Thank you for your clarified Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 29 June 2020, reference K/20/231.

Your clarified request read:

“Have made budgetary adjustments to your predicted 2020/2021 income in the last six months due to the coronavirus pandemic? Please specify the changes

Has your university appealed to the government for financial aid? If so please provide details of this request including how much financial support was requested. If you could provide copies of any correspondence this would be preferable. I am referring to any letters sent to government such as this one https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/05/27/cambridge-university-seeking-financial-help-government-vice/

How many international applications have been received over the last 6 months (Jan-June 2020) compared to that same six-month time period in 2019 and 2018? Please break this down by month JUST STUDENT APPLICATIONS UNDERGRAD AND POSTGRAD PLEASE

How many staff have you furloughed or made redundant since March [2020]? Please break this down by month

How much research funding has been acquired in the first 6 months of 2020 compared to the same 6 month period (Jan to June in 2019, and 2018)? Please break this down by year and month I AM TALKING ABOUT ANY NEW GRANTS WON between March to now

What cost cutting measures have you introduced to save money due to financial damage done due to covid-19? Please detail them as thoroughly as possible.

How much money has been spent on marketing to attract international students to new online courses? Please break this down by spend, platform of the market (ie social media) and the country targeted.”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information. For your convenience we have responded to each of your questions below.
Have made budgetary adjustments to your predicted 2020/2021 income in the last six months due to the coronavirus pandemic? Please specify the changes.

And

Has your university appealed to the government for financial aid? If so please provide details of this request including how much financial support was requested. If you could provide copies of any correspondence this would be preferable. I am referring to any letters sent to government such as this one https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/05/27/cambridge-university-seeking-financial-help-government-vice/

And

What cost cutting measures have you introduced to save money due to financial damage done due to covid-19? Please detail them as thoroughly as possible.

We address these questions together.

As would be expected, the University of Leeds has, since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, regularly reviewed its financial position and we took some immediate steps to mitigate against a shortfall in income. Specifically, we limited staff recruitment, paused significant capital expenditure where possible and restricted non-staff expenditure. However, we are withholding further information in response to your question under section 43(2) of the FOI Act, which provides an exemption from disclosing information which would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the organisation.

However, in the hope that it is helpful, you can find copies of communications issued to staff throughout the pandemic on our dedicated coronavirus webpages.

How many international applications have been received over the last 6 months (Jan-June 2020) compared to that same six-month time period in 2019 and 2018? Please break this down by month JUST STUDENT APPLICATIONS UNDERGRAD AND POSTGRAD PLEASE

The FOI Act provides a right to information as it is held at the date of your request. Your request seeks the number of international applications received between January and June 2020, which we understand to mean all applications received between 1 January 2020 and 30 June 2020. However, your request was received during June when applications were still being received. As such, we are unable to provide the 2020 information, or comparisons to previous years.

How many staff have you furloughed or made redundant since March [2020]? Please break this down by month

Please find this information in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mar-20</th>
<th>Apr-20</th>
<th>May-20</th>
<th>Jun-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furloughed staff</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>983</td>
<td>1099</td>
<td>1258</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please note that the furlough figures represent the total number of staff who were currently furloughed during the given month. As such, someone initially furloughed in March 2020, and still furloughed in April 2020 will be counted in both figures.

We are withholding redundancy figures under section 40(2) of the FOI Act, because they are so small that it is likely to result in the identification of individuals.

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 their employment. This would be unfair and would therefore breach their data protection rights.

**How much research funding has been acquired in the first 6 months of 2020 compared to the same 6 month period (Jan to June in 2019, and 2018)? Please break this down by year and month I AM TALKING ABOUT ANY NEW GRANTS WON between March to now**

Please find this information set out in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awards</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>21.0m</td>
<td>15.5m</td>
<td>19.2m</td>
<td>5.6m</td>
<td>8.3m</td>
<td>7.9m</td>
<td>77.5m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>16.2m</td>
<td>9.2m</td>
<td>19.3m</td>
<td>20.7m</td>
<td>16.0m</td>
<td>7.5m</td>
<td>88.9m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>15.1m</td>
<td>17.2m</td>
<td>8.5m</td>
<td>14.1m</td>
<td>22.5m</td>
<td>17.3m</td>
<td>94.8m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How much money has been spent on marketing to attract international students to new online courses? Please break this down by spend, platform of the market (ie social media) and the country targeted**

In our clarification email of 29 June 2020, we asked that you set out a timeframe for this part of your request (i.e. money spent between which dates?). As this has not been provided, we are unable to answer this part of your request. If you provide us with a timeframe, we will be happy to process this question as a separate request (therefore subject to its own 20-working day timeframe).

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
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