Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/398)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 9 October 2020, reference K/20/398.

Your request read:

“I am making a request under the Freedom of Information Act. Please could you tell me how many students have been disciplined for covid-related incidents since the start of term.

Could you also provide details of incidents, punishments, and fines in each case

if you are not able to provide individual details of cases, please provide in as much detail as you can (total number of students disciplined, total monetary value of fines issued, types of incidents).

For clarity, I’m asking for incidents relating to breaches of covid rules - these might include, but are not limited to, parties, breaching the rule of six, and unauthorised guests in halls.”

The University of Leeds holds 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.

We can advise that since the beginning of the new academic year, 148 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. Since the beginning of the year, a total of 107 warnings and 343 fines have been issued to students for breaches of the General University Disciplinary Regulations. However, these totals include disciplinary matters which are unrelated to coronavirus (e.g. noise complaints) and we cannot disaggregate these figures. As such, we cannot advise on the number of covid-related incidents which have resulted in particular disciplinary action. We can, however, confirm that to date no students have been expelled or suspended because of coronavirus related disciplinary breaches.

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