Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/20/527)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 18 December 2020, reference K/20/527.

Your request read:

“1. How many sexual assault/harassment cases were reported at the university in the past five academic years? Please could you provide the following information within those numbers:

2. How many reports were made by male students per academic year

3. How many reports were made by female students per academic year

4. The ethnicity breakdown per academic year, by gender

5. Where the reported sexual assault/harassment took place per academic year, e.g. university halls, off university premises and on university premises”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

Based on questions two, three and five, we understand your request to relate to reports made by students. Accusations made against other students are handled by the Student Cases Team. Accusations made against members of staff are handled by HR.

Reports about other students
The information held by the Student Cases Team is limited to the academic year 2018/19 onwards. As such, we cannot provide any information in relation to student/student reports for the academic years 2015/16, 2016/17 or 2017/18. We do not keep a record of the location of the alleged incident, although we intend to start recording this in future. We are happy to release information in relation to the gender and ethnicity of individuals, but we consider that to split this information by academic year would risk the identification of students. This would be extremely unfair, contrary to their expectations and would undermine the reporting process. We are therefore refusing to provide the granular breakdown under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act, which exempts personal information from disclosure. Instead, we have provided information in an unlinked way.

In 2018/19, a total of 10 reports were made. In 2019/20, a further 10 reports were made.
Of these, two reports were made by male students. Eighteen reports were made by female students. Fifteen reports were made by students of white ethnicity, four by students for whom no ethnicity data is recorded, and one by a student of Asian ethnicity. We are declining to provide ethnicity sub-groups under section 40(2) as outlined above.

**Reports about members of staff**
Reports managed by HR are all recorded anonymously. As such, no information is held about the gender or ethnicity of the complainant is retained. Nor is any information recorded about the location of the alleged incident. However, we can provide the number of cases, which we hope is helpful.

- 2015/16 – one report
- 2016/17 – two reports
- 2017/18 – no reports
- 2018/19 – no reports
- 2019/20 – two reports.

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