Dear

**Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/023)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 13 January 2021, reference K/21/023.

Your request read:

“I am looking for information regarding domestic abuse and stalking, specifically:

1. How many cases of stalking and domestic abuse have been reported at the university between 2017 and 2020, or up to the most recent 12-month period.
2. If the information is held, of the cases reported between 2017 and 2020, what proportion of the alleged perpetrators were male and female.
3. How many of the alleged perpetrators subsequently continued their studies at the same university.

I request access to the information in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet format, where each full year from 2017 to 2020 shows the number of stalking and domestic abuse cases reported, the number of male and female alleged perpetrators and how many of the alleged perpetrators subsequently continued their studies at university.”

The University of Leeds holds this information.

We have received two relevant reports in the timeframe of your request; one in relation to domestic abuse and one in relation to stalking. It should be noted that whilst we record incidents of Sexual Harassment or Assault, Bullying, Harassment and Aggressive or threatening behaviour, we do not record ‘stalking’ as a separate category.

Given the very small numbers, we are withholding further information under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. 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. Members of the university community expect complaints and reports of abuse such as this to be handled confidentially and sensitively. It would be grossly unfair to release information which could lead to the identification of individuals associated with an alleged incident. Disclosure of the year(s) in which these alleged incidents occurred, the gender of the alleged perpetrators and the outcome of the incident would therefore contravene data protection principles, and the information is therefore exempt under section 40(2).
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.

Yours sincerely

Chloe Wilkins  
Freedom of Information Officer

Secretariat  
University of Leeds