

From: [removed] **On Behalf Of** Freedom of Information

Sent: 28 June 2021 09:35

To:

Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/196)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/196)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 16 April 2021, reference K/21/196. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in providing a response to your request.

Your request read:

"I am writing to request the following information under the 2000 Freedom of Information Act.

1. How many students died by suicide or suspected suicide in the academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021? Please provide a total of both years and separate figures for each year.

2. How many announcements have been made to the public regarding a student suicide in the academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021? Please provide a total of both years and two separate figures for each year.

By 'announcement', I refer to any communication from the university to the student body/general public, which could include mass emails to students, press releases or statements on the university website.

3. Please provide the university's policy for informing other students of a student suicide or suspected suicide?

By 'policy', I mean the procedures/guidance in place for communicating to other students that a suicide has taken place. Please include details of what would be said to friends/acquaintances of the deceased; what is the favoured method of communication, and whether there is a time period in which this is expected to be carried out, if possible."

The University of Leeds does not hold this information.

Please note that there is no requirement for the University to be made aware of a student's cause of death, nor is there any inherent requirement for the University to be made aware of coroners' decisions (where relevant). Although we may be anecdotally aware of some student deaths over the requested time period where suicide has been presumed as the cause of death, we do not hold any formal records of confirmed cases of student suicides.

As such, we do not hold any information in relation to questions two or three of your request. Information in relation to student crises, including in the event of a death (regardless of the cause) is treated sensitively and in confidence. Where it is necessary to advise students that a death has occurred, the manner in which this takes place is determined on a case-by-case basis.

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.