Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/158)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 29 March 2021, reference K/21/158. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

Your request read:

“Please may I request the following information for the 2020 Entry and 2021 Entry admissions cycles of applicants to the A101 Gateway to Medicine course:

1) Number of applicants
2) Number of applicants interviewed
3) Number of offers made
4) Average BMAT score of successful applicants”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

The A101 Gateway to Medicine course was introduced for the 2019/20 application cycle (i.e. for a September 2020 start). As was expected, this resulted in a relatively small number of applications; 146 in total. Of these, 56 applicants were interviewed, with 37 offers made.

The BMAT raw scores are typically used in the following manner: All scores from applicants are put into a normal distribution curve. Those candidates who are in the highest 20% receive a score 5/5 and those who are in the lowest 20% receive a score of 1/5 and everything in between is scored according to where they are placed in this distribution.

However, due to the very small pool of applications for the programme in its inaugural year, the BMAT scores were not used within the shortlisting process for 2020 entry. Shortlisting was determined by whether applicants met the academic requirements and were from a widening participation background. The offers were made based solely on performance at interview. The BMAT scores for a successful or unsuccessful candidate are therefore irrelevant within that year’s process.

In relation to 2021 entry, 329 applications were received, with 128 applicants invited to interview and 61 offers made. A combination score using academic achievement and BMAT is used to determine a rank for shortlisting to interview. We therefore do not hold information regarding BMAT scores in the format you have requested. The BMAT raw scores are typically used in the following manner: All scores from applicants are put into a normal distribution curve. Those candidates who are in the
highest 20% receive a score of five out of five, and those who are in the lowest 20% receive a score of one out of five. Everything in between is scored according to where they are placed in this distribution.

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