Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/362)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 23 July 2021, reference K/21/362.

Your request read:

“Please can you answer the following questions for the academic years of: 2018/9, 2019/20, 2020/21:

1) Over this time period, how many people (undergraduate students and postgraduate students) applied to enroll to an undergraduate course at your university who was found (either by self-declaration or when prompted to disclose any criminal convictions) to have had a conviction for any sort of religious or racial hate crime incident or abuse. Can you provide the information in terms of individuals applying to enrol at your university to start at the beginning of these academic years. i.e. this includes those applying in, say December 2017, for enrollment in 2018/9. I want to be clear that I am asking about students who declare (or who have been found to have) a criminal conviction, through their application to the University.

I am defining 'religious hate crime or abuse' as any crime relating to verbal and physical abuse, bullying, threatening behaviour, online abuse or damage to property on the grounds of race or religion.

When answering Q1, please can you state the types of convictions disclosed (and how many times this type of conviction was disclosed).

2) How many of the people identified in Q1 were subsequently allocated to live in (university maintained/owned) residential settings (either in apartments or shared accommodation blocks on campus, for example) with students who identified as being from a 'BAME' background or a 'religious' background?

When answering Q2, please can you specify the type of residential setting, and whether the student who was allocated a house with the student convicted of a hate/religious crime identified as 'black' or 'Asian' or another ethnic minority, and the type of religion (i.e. 'christian' or 'Muslim') they identified as.”

You sent a further email the following day, which read:

“In relation to my earlier request sent yesterday, the sentence: "I am asking about students who declare (or who have been found to have) a criminal conviction,
through their application to the University." should have read instead: "I am asking about students who declare (or who have been found to have) a criminal conviction, through their application/enrollment to the University. I would be grateful if you could please confirm receipt of this clarification. My apologies for any confusion caused.”

The University of Leeds does not hold any recorded information relevant to your request.

No applicants had declared or been found to have convictions falling within the definition set out at question one of your request. As such, our answer to question two is ‘not applicable’.

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.

Sincerely

Chloe Wilkins
Freedom of Information Officer
University of Leeds