Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/370)

Thank you for your clarified Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 2 August 2021, reference K/21/370.

Your clarified request seeks the following information:

“As you may know, this year, there have been concerns over the fairness and equality in the delivery of OSCEs across MBChB years three and four. These concerns had also been raised across several cohorts along the years.

Therefore, as MSRC Equality, Diversity and Inclusion representatives we are emailing you to make a formal FOI request for anonymised data. In the interest of transparency and as part of the FOI act 2000, we are asking for:


2. Breakdown of the ethnicity of students sequencing year 3 and 4 of 2020/21, (2019/20), 2018/19, 2017/18 and 2016/17 [both OSCE and written, as seperated data]


The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

We do not request or receive ethnicity information for OSCE examiners or volunteers and as such we do not hold any information in relation to question one of your request.

Please find attached to this email a spreadsheet setting out the information we hold in relation to questions two, three and four of your request. Please note that, in order to protect the identities of students, we have rounded the percentage figures, to prevent the backwards-calculation of raw numbers, which in turn would be likely to allow the identification of individuals. We do so under section 40(2) of the FOI 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. To release information which either directly or indirectly allows students to be identified would, by extension, reveal sensitive personal information (i.e. in relation to their ethnicity, and whether they have sequenced) would be grossly unfair, and would therefore breach the data protection rights of the individuals.

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