From: Freedom of Information  
Sent: 16 September 2021 15:30  
To:  
Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/406)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/406)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 18 August 2021, reference K/21/406.

Your request read:

“Reference: 30 additional places allocated by DfE/OfS to Leeds University ease pressures on oversubscribed University Medical Schools for 2021.

I would be grateful if you could outline the entry criteria that has been used to admit existing offer holders from other Universities to the Leeds medical course in 2021.

Could you confirm whether there was a requirement to have taken the BMAT?  
- Yes/No

How many may have been admitted without having sat the BMAT?  
- Number

For this cohort if any conversion threshold was used to represent the equivalent cut off BMAT score used by Leeds to offer interviews to 2021 applicants.  
- Equivalent UCAT score.”

The University of Leeds holds this information.

On 9 August 2021, the Office for Students (OfS) provided an update to the medical and dental intake targets for 2021-22. To be eligible for an offer the following conditions were stated by the OfS:

- Students must be recruited by the provider in 2021-22 and must be either:
  - home students that hold a firm offer from an over-subscribed school for entry in 2021-22, and meet the terms of their offer; or
  - home students that hold an insurance offer from an over-subscribed school for entry in 2021-22, and meet the terms of this offer, but not their firm offer at a different school

This was therefore a closed scheme that sat outwith our normal selection process. Eligible students were provided with full instructions on how to apply by the institution where they were holding an offer. The scheme closed on 17 August 2021, and all institutions were informed that if they had not filled the expansion target numbers at this point they were not allowed to fill these from within their own applicant pool.

Applications were considered in batches to comply with the requirement under the transfer scheme to give a decision on all applications within 48 hours. In practice, this was done up to twice a day from Tuesday 10 August 2021 until the morning of Friday 13 August 2021 when we reached our new target intake.
The following process was used to admit students

1. Applications were checked to see whether the student had applied previously.
   a. If an applicant had applied to Leeds previously but rejected before interview, the shortlisting score was recalculated with the firm rather than predicted grades. Any applicants who still had an insufficient score were rejected. Widening participation candidates were considered using the shortlisting score applicable to that group.
   b. If an applicant had applied to Leeds previously but did not score high enough on the basis of their MMI, they were rejected if they did not have a score above a new predefined cut off. If they had a score above this new cut off, and they achieved a high enough set of grades in keeping with our standard or widening participation offer, then their request under the transfer scheme was accepted.

2. If an applicant had not applied to Leeds previously, their transfer request was accepted if they achieved the grades in line with a University of Leeds standard or contextual offer. Otherwise their application was rejected.

The terms of the scheme did not allow for candidates to be asked to complete admissions tests or interviews for the transfer institution. BMAT and UCAT scores were therefore not taken into consideration.

The University of Leeds standard and contextual offers for widening participation applicants are described on the University of Leeds website. Given the time available to make decisions, an assessment of widening participation criteria was made based on the criteria used by the Medical School where applicants were holding a contextual unconditional firm offer.

The process continued until all of the additional places had been allocated. At this point the transfer scheme to Leeds was closed and any further applicants were advised of this.

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