Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/430)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 4 September 2021, reference K/21/430. Your request was sent in the form of follow-up questions to the information provided to you in response to Freedom of Information request K/21/402.

Your request read:

“Thank you for your detailed response! I have a further three questions from your response:

1. Are the applications of widening participation applicants considered any differently to other applicants? If so, how are they considered differently?

2. Would it be possible to obtain the admission statistics for 2021 entry?

3. For your answer to Question 7, has this selection process been used throughout the past few admission cycles? And are you able to disclose whether this same system is likely to be adapted for the upcoming admission cycle?”

The University of Leeds holds some of this information.

1. Are the applications of widening participation applicants considered any differently to other applicants? If so, how are they considered differently?

We have a number of programmes that help students from underrepresented groups to get a place on an undergraduate degree at Leeds. Please refer to our Alternative Admissions web page for more details.

One of these widening participation programmes is Access to Leeds, which provides students who meet specific criteria with the opportunity to study a degree with lower entry requirements than those which are published on our course pages. Typically, and Access to Leeds offer is two grades below the published entry requirement.

2. Would it be possible to obtain the admission statistics for 2021 entry [for A100 medicine]?

In our response to your first FOI request, reference K/21/402, you were provided with the number of applications, interviews and offers for 2021 entry. We have reproduced this information below.
Enrolment has not yet commenced and as such we do not hold any information in relation to the number of students who have registered onto the course. Please let us know if you had a specific type of ‘admission statistic’ in mind.

3. For your answer to Question 7, has this selection process been used throughout the past few admission cycles? And are you able to disclose whether this same system is likely to be adapted for the upcoming admission cycle?

For ease of reference, we have reproduced question seven, and our response, below.

7) Weighting of each component (such as BMAT, Personal Statement, and GSCE’s) in offering an interview

Invitation to interview is determined by a ranking, taking place after calculating the candidate’s academic score (i.e. GCSE and A-level or equivalent) when added to a score calculated from BMAT and is out of a total maximum score of 37. Within this score, 24 points are available for GCSEs (or equivalent) and 8 for predicted/achieved grades at A-level (or equivalent). The maximum score for BMAT is 5 points.

In order to achieve the full 27 points for GCSEs, candidates had to secure 8 GCSEs with A* or 8/9 in each subject. 3 points were awarded for A* (or 8/9), 2 points for A (or 7), and 1 point for B (or 5/6).

8 points were available for A-level grades already gained or predicted, with 8 points being awarded to candidates predicted AAA or above.

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

This selection process has been used since at least 2013; this is as far back as we hold information for, it is likely to be changed for the upcoming cycle. No decisions have yet been made on the selection process for 2022 entry and as such we hold no further recorded information on this subject.

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