Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/130)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 10 March 2021, reference K/21/130. Please accept our sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

Your request read:

“1. What support services do you have currently for those suffering with mental health?
2. What is your current budget for mental health support for each of the last 5 academic years, and where possible a breakdown on how that money is allocated, e.g. staff, marketing, equipment etc.
3. What number of students seeking mental health support in each of the last 5 academic years.
4. Average waiting time for mental health support in each of the last 5 academic years.
5. Any internal reports or reviews relating to mental health provisions post the Covid19 pandemic.
6. Please provide the above information digitally, preferably in the form of an excel spreadsheet.”

The University of Leeds holds this information. For your convenience we have responded to each of your questions in turn below.

1. **What support services do you have currently for those suffering with mental health?**

An overview of mental health support services is available on our website.

2. **What is your current budget for mental health support for each of the last 5 academic years, and where possible a breakdown on how that money is allocated, e.g. staff, marketing, equipment etc.**

Mental health support is provided by the Student Counselling and Wellbeing Service. We cannot isolate the budget for the mental health provisions provided as part of the service. As such, the information below relates to the Student Counselling and Wellbeing service in general.

|-------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|

### 3. What number of students seeking mental health support in each of the last 5 academic years.

Please find this information set out in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Student Counselling and Wellbeing Self-referrals received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>2136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>2658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>3797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>3116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Average waiting time for mental health support in each of the last 5 academic years.

Waiting times depend on the type of appointment. We offer 30 same day/Drop-In appointments weekly, bookable each morning from 9am. This academic year there has only been two occasions when all six drop in sessions were filled in a day; otherwise there has been daily availability throughout. In addition, between 20 and 30 rapid access priority wellbeing, counselling and mental health appointments are available weekly. These appointments are booked within 24 to 72 hours of students contacting us. Routine appointments are booked up to three weeks in advance.

Students who are waiting for routine appointments are contacted on a rolling basis as each week new appointments become available. No one has waited more than seven working days to be contacted with the offer of an appointment this academic session, with all students waiting offered Same Day Drop In sessions while they wait.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the majority of staff, including those in the Student Counselling and Wellbeing service, continue to work remotely. For information security purposes, some information is not available while off-campus. This includes waiting time information. We are therefore currently unable to provide historic waiting time information.

### 5. Any internal reports or reviews relating to mental health provisions post the Covid19 pandemic

Please find attached a report provided to the University Senate in March 2021 regarding Student Support services.
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