



UNIVERSITY
of HULL

Request Reference: 3506

FOI Request dated 02/10/2025 –

Please provide the following information for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025, broken down by financial year:

- 1) Total expenditure by your institution on pest control services, including both in-house provision and external/contracted services.*
- 2) If any services are contracted out, please provide the supplier name(s) and the contract value(s).*
- 3) The number of call-outs/treatments by species category (e.g. rats, mice, pigeons, gulls, foxes, grey squirrels, wasps, bedbugs, cockroaches—please use your own categories if recorded differently).*
- 4) For any lethal control commissioned or carried out by your institution, the number of animals killed by species and, where recorded, the method used (e.g. trapping, poisoning, shooting).*
- 5) A copy of any policy, guidance, or standard operating procedure relating to the university's pest control service or contractors.*

Response

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which: a) states that fact b) specifies the exemption(s) in question and c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

Under Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act, we can confirm that the University does hold the information requested, however on this occasion it is not possible for us to provide any information relating to your request as we have determined that the cost of finding and assembling some of the requested information will exceed the 'appropriate limit' as defined by section 12 of the Act and the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004/3244.

'The 'appropriate limit' of £450, which equates to 18 hours' work, as defined by the Information Commissioner's Office, can relate to one request in its entirety or to a series of linked requests. If the University cannot locate, retrieve, and extract some or all of the requested information within the 18 hours we are not obliged to retrieve any of the requested information.

Please take this as a refusal notice in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act which states; A public authority which, in relation to any request for information, is relying on a claim that section 12 applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact.

If you are unhappy with how your request has been handled you have the right to ask for an internal review (within 40 days from receiving response). To request a review, please email dataprotection@hull.ac.uk. The review will be conducted by the Data Protection Officer or University Secretary.

Please be aware that Freedom of Information (FOI) requests made with the intention of furthering commercial interests, such as selling goods or services or gaining a competitive advantage over potential suppliers, are outside the intended scope of FOI. Using FOI for gaining a commercial advantage over others is not in line with the purpose of the Act and provides minimal or no benefit to the public. ICO guidance sets out that: "The public interest here means the public good, not what is of interest to the public, and not the private interests of the requester.