

Our Reference: 2573

FOI Request dated 25/02/2022 as follows –

*I would like to know the percentage of English, Undergraduate, enrolled students, under the age of 25, since 2013/14 who are **confirmed** as care experienced, that do not meet the following criteria. Either:*

- *A GCSE at grade C or above (4 in the new grading system) in **both** Maths and English*
- *Three A levels at C or above*

For the avoidance of doubt, only a failure to meet both conditions above should indicate that a student meets the criteria of this request.

Where possible, please disaggregate the information by academic year and provide the total student numbers used in the calculation. However, if disaggregation isn't possible please return the figures at any level of aggregation possible.

Please provide the same information, in the same format, for students who are not confirmed as care experienced (i.e. the general student population excluding confirmed care experienced students).

*For the purposes of this query, students who are returned to HESA as Care Leaver 04 (ucas identified care leaver) without any further verification should **not** be included in the care experienced population. Students identified as 04 and assessed as independent by student finance **should** be included in the care experienced population. Students identified as 04 and in receipt of a bursary for either care experienced or independent students **should** be included in the care experienced population. This list isn't exhaustive, any internal verification process is acceptable to include a student in the population.*

Response

This would require an extensive manual check which would exceed the 18 hour cost limit of FOI. Therefore S12 of the Act applies.

Section 12 – Exemption where cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit.

s1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the 'appropriate limit' (18 – hours).

Activities that may be counted within our time estimations are:

- Determining if the information is held;
- Locating the information, or a document containing it;
- Retrieving the information, or a document containing it; and
- Extracting the information from a document containing it.

The following have not been included within our calculations:

- The time spent identifying information to be exempted
- The time dedicated to the process of redaction.

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 or 14

applies must, within the time for complying with section 1(1), give the applicant a notice stating that fact.