

Our Reference: 2556

FOI Request dated 03/02/2022 as follows –

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information regarding figures for rent in university-run accommodation and student halls.

Please could I have the following data broken down by year?

- 1. How many students have you had staying in university-run accommodation and student halls, in the last five years?*
- 2. How much rent has the university collected year on year for university-run accommodation and student halls, in the last five years?*
- 3. How much money has been invested in university-run accommodation and student halls for upkeep/maintenance/renovations, in the last five years?*
- 4. How many students staying in university-run accommodation and student halls, if any, have been indebted to the university for late rent payments, in the last five years?*
- 5. How many students staying in university-run accommodation and student halls, if any, have been evicted for missing rent payments, in the last five years?*

Response

Question 4 would require a manual check of 500 cases, which would exceed the FOI cost limit of 18 hours' work. 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.

Although excess cost removes the Universities obligations under the Freedom of Information Act, as a gesture of goodwill, I have supplied information, relative to your request, retrieved or available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Q1 –

2017 /18

2018 /19

2019 /20
2020 /21
2021 /22
Totals

Q5 – No information held (Total – 0)