

Judy Macdonald
By email: request-769183-a7fb8da3@whatdotheyknow.com

27 July 2021

Dear Judy Macdonald,

G00432: Freedom of Information Request

We refer to your request for information dated 28/06/2021 under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "Act").

Please find below your question, with the University's corresponding response.

Question

Dear University of Southampton,

As of the May UCAS deadline for Institutions to make their decisions on applications (or end of cycle, if you do not still hold information for this date), can you please confirm how many places there were for your A100 course, how many applicants you had, how many were invited to interview and how many offers were made, please?

I would like this information for 2021 entry, 2020 entry and 2019 entry, please, and split into Home, RUK and International fee status, please.

Could you also please state the UCAT cut off required for an interview for each of these years for a standard, non-contextual applicant, for these groups, please? Many thanks for your help

Yours faithfully,

Judy Macdonald

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:

request-769183-a7fb8da3@whatdotheyknow.com

Answer

In accordance with [Section 1\(1\)\(a\)](#) of the Act, we confirm that the University holds information of the description specified in your request.

Please refer to our responses in connection with earlier requests for information available [here](#) and also [here](#) which request the same information from us.

In respect of the balance of information requested but not provided, the release of such information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the University by providing a dataset from which to derive or attempt to derive the performance of our Medicine programmes with respect to our current recruitment activities and strategies.

As Section 43(2) is a qualified exemption, the University has considered the public interest test.

Factors favouring disclosure

- Openness and Transparency: it is in the public interest that the University, as a public authority, is open and transparent in the way in which our programmes operate in terms of our recruitment and enrolment activity.
- Programme capacity: it is in the public interest that programme capacity is clear which informs future workforce planning needs.

Factors favouring non-disclosure

- Competition: it is not in the public interest to reduce competition between providers by disclosing information that would undermine the University's ability to adapt its recruitment and admissions strategies based on early indicators in its most recent datasets.
- Misleading: it is not in the public interest to draw potentially misleading conclusions from a dataset about the capacity planning for our programmes and how this may translate to future workforce planning needs.
- Widening Participation: it is not in the public interest to disclose information which could discourage applications from students who are otherwise well-placed to meet our entry requirements for fear that the number of applications exceed the number of places available and without the benefit of discussions from colleagues in our admissions teams in order to explain the options available to them which in turn reduces the collective ability of higher education providers to meet their widening participation goals.

Given the above considerations, the University concludes that the public interest in upholding the exemption is greater than the public interest in the disclosure of the information and accordingly the information you have requested is exempt.

If you do not feel that we have dealt with your request in accordance with the requirements of [Part I](#) of the Act, you may request a review. Your request for a review should specify in what respect you consider that the requirements of [Part I](#) have not been met. Please address your request for a review by completing the [form](#) and selecting Fol Review.

In accordance with section 5.3 of the [Code of Practice](#), a request for a review must be sent within 40 working days of the date of this letter. The University is not obliged to accept any requests for a review beyond 40 working days. We will acknowledge your request for a review and endeavour to respond within 20 working days of its receipt but please note that a deadline for a review response is not prescribed by the Act.

The Information Commissioner is responsible for enforcing rights of access to information and the operation of the publication scheme. You may apply to the Information Commissioner in writing (FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF) or [electronically](#) for a decision whether, in any specified respect, your request for information has been dealt with by the University in accordance with the requirements of [Part I](#) of the Act. The Information Commissioner will not normally take action unless they are satisfied that the University's review procedure has been exhausted.

Yours sincerely,

foi

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Response to Information provided by the University of Southampton
https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/body/university_of_southampton