

**Mr John Gilchrist**  
Freedom of Information Officer

6 February 2018

Ref: FOI/January 2018/ Callum Mason

By email to [Callum.Mason@moneysavingexpert.com](mailto:Callum.Mason@moneysavingexpert.com)

The Burroughs  
Hendon  
London  
NW4 4BT  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 8411 4061  
e-mail:  
[j.gilchrist@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:j.gilchrist@mdx.ac.uk)  
[www.mdx.ac.uk](http://www.mdx.ac.uk)

Dear Mr Mason

Your request for information received on 11 January 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

In the 2016/17 academic year:

- a) The number of students who left the university before completion of their studies citing 'financial' or 'money' related problems as their reason or one of their reasons.
- b) What is this number as a proportion of the total number of students who left the university before completion of their course.
- c) Could I have this information broken down by the year of study that the students were in.

If this is not possible within the financial limits of the FOI Act, I would like to find out instead, in the 2016/17 academic year:

- a) The number of students IN THEIR FIRST YEAR OF STUDY who left the university before completion of their studies citing 'financial' or 'money' related problems as their reason or one of their reasons.
- b) What is this number as a proportion of the total number of students who left the university before completion of their course.

### **University Response**

Details of the number as a proportion of the total number of students who left the university before completion of their course is exempt as S22. of the Freedom of Information Act when the information sought is intended for future publication. The information is made publically on the website of Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) (2015/16 can be seen here <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/performance-indicators/non-continuation>) and the statement for 2016/17 is due to be published in March 2019.

The University does not compel students to provide a specific reason as to why they choose to withdraw from their programme of study so does not hold a data set that could indicate *'financial' or 'money' related problems* as the reason for withdrawal.

I trust this satisfies your request sufficiently. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you have the right to complain about the University's response to your request for information. If you have such a complaint, you may contact Mrs Teresa Kelly, Clerk to the Board of Governors, Middlesex University, Hendon campus, London NW4 4BT, tel: 020 8411 6018, [t.kelly@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:t.kelly@mdx.ac.uk) within 40 days of the date of this letter for a review of the University's decision. If you remain unsatisfied with the outcome of that complaint, you may seek further recourse by lodging an appeal with the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely

**John Gilchrist**  
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