

**Mr John Gilchrist**  
Freedom of Information Officer

7 January 2019

Ref: FOI/November 2018/ Sian Griffiths

By email to [ggstusp@gmail.com](mailto:ggstusp@gmail.com)

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Dear Ms Griffiths

Your request for information received on 28 November 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

I am sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act.

- 1) Please state the number of students at your university recorded as having committed suicide in each of the last 5 academic years, and the current academic year to 28.11.18. If you only hold partial records on this, please still provide them with this caveat.
- 2) Please provide a copy of all university guidance to staff held on dealing with the suicide of students at your university.
- 3) Please provide a copy of all lines to take prepared by your university press office in response to incidents of student suicide since September 1st 2013, and all generic draft lines prepared in the event of future student suicide.

### **University Response**

- 1) The University does not have access to coroner's reports and so are unable to confirm whether the small number of student deaths of which we have been made aware during the time period in the FOI request are indeed students who have suicided.
- 2) The University currently has in place a Cause for Concern Procedure and a Death of a Student Procedure. There are also Senior Manager on call arrangements in place and we have in place availability of specialist support staff when necessary. Over the course of this academic year we are drafting a suicide pre and post vention plan which will be made available to all staff.
- 3) The University does not have any 'prepared lines to take' on student suicides and would deal with such situations on an individual basis as appropriate.

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 Mr David Maplas, Director of Student Affairs, Middlesex University, Hendon campus, London NW4 4BT, tel: 020 8411 5830, [d.malpas@mdx.ac.uk](mailto:d.malpas@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**  
Freedom of Information Officer