

Mr John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer

5 September 2018

Ref: FOI/July 2018/ Binyomin Gilbert

By email to campus@antisemitism.uk

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Dear Mr Gilbert

Your request for information received on 16 July 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

Our request is as follows:

Q1 At present, how does Middlesex University define antisemitism for disciplinary purposes?

Q1a If Middlesex University has adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism for disciplinary purposes (see antisemitism.uk/definition for the full text) has it been adopted in full, inclusive of all examples listed?

Q1b If Middlesex University has adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, when did it do so?

Q1c If Middlesex University has not adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism, is it currently considering adopting it, and if so, when is a decision expected to be made?

Q2 How many allegations of antisemitism did Middlesex University log in the 2017/2018 academic year now ended?

Q3 In the event of an antisemitic hate crime being brought to the attention of Middlesex University, is there a procedure in place to ensure that the police are automatically informed?

Q4 Does Middlesex University publish the results of its disciplinary hearings? If it does not, what is the reason?

Q5 What dedicated pastoral care is provided for Jewish students in the event that they experience antisemitism at Middlesex University?

Q6a Who is the person we should notify in relation to potentially antisemitic speakers and events at Middlesex University, for example speakers of concern under Prevent, the government's counter-extremism strategy, and what is their name and contact information?

Q6b Who should we contact in the event of that person's non-availability, and how should we reach them?

Q7 What training on antisemitism has been provided for academic and administrative staff in general at Middlesex University?

Q8 What training on antisemitism has been delivered to those staff at Middlesex University who are specifically responsible for vetting prospective speakers under Prevent?

University Response

Q1 As a University we do not have a specific definition of antisemitism for disciplinary purposes.

Q1a No.

Q1b see above.

Q1c The Director of Student Affairs who leads for the institution in this area is meeting with the Chief Operating Officer of the Students' Union in September 2018 and will include this on the agenda as part of a wider discussion on how the institution is progressing with our project on tackling sexual violence, harassment and hate crime. This meeting will also seek to further advance how we can involve local community groups in tackling these issues.

Q2 None.

Q3 The University does not have a specific procedure in place for automatically informing the police if an antisemitic hate crime has been brought to our attention.

Q4 The University does not publish the results of disciplinary procedures to protect the privacy rights of those individuals involved.

Q5 The University does not provide dedicated pastoral care to any distinct group of students.

Q6a David Malpas, Director of Student Affairs, D.Malpas@mdx.ac.uk

Q6b Even if the above individual is not immediately available any urgent correspondence will still be dealt with even using the same contact details.

Q7 Equality and Diversity training is a mandatory requirement for all staff.

Q8 The University has adopted training modules that have been developed by the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education that covers all aspects of Prevent.

Middlesex University prides itself on the diversity of its students and staff, and our codes of conduct and other procedures set out to protect the rights of the whole community. We do not tolerate discrimination against any individual or any group. Situated as we are at the heart of Barnet, we enjoy an excellent relationship with the local and wider Jewish community, with regular articles in the Jewish Chronicle and a strong relationship with Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis who is an Honorary Graduate at Middlesex.

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 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