

Mr John Gilchrist
Freedom of Information Officer

26 September 2018

Ref: FOI/September 2018/ Kelsey Mowat

By email to mowatkelsey@gmail.com

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Dear Ms Mowat

Your request for information received on 5 September 2018 has been dealt with under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

I request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

- Are there any dedicated mental health counsellors on site at your establishment for students? If so, how long is a waiting list?
- Please break down if there are any mental health counsellors for students struggling with a range of different mental health issues and how long the waiting list is for students wanting one.
- Please provide this data for the start of when this establishment opened.

University Response

Yes we do employ dedicated mental health counsellors at Middlesex University.

We do not record specific waiting times for individual students seeking treatment however we aim that students wait no longer than 4 weeks between their referral and being seen by a Counselling and Mental Health Specialist. This is a significant improvement on previous academic years when the wait was 12 weeks at peak times.

Please see below the staffing levels for our Counselling and Mental Health Service since it was established in 2012/13:

2012/13

Head of Student Welfare and Counselling – 1FTE – 1 person
Counsellors – 3FTE – 6 people

2013/14

Head of Student Welfare and Counselling – 1FTE – 1 person
Counsellors – 3FTE – 6 people

2014/15

Student Mental Health Manager – 1FTE – 1 person
Counsellors – 3.14FTE – 6 people
Associate training counsellors – 2 FTE – 2 people (voluntary)

2015/16

Student Mental Health Manager – 1FTE – 1 person
Counsellors – 3.14FTE – 6 people
Associate training counsellors – 2 FTE – 2 people (voluntary)

2016/17

Student Counselling and Mental Health Manager – 1FTE
Mental Health Advisor – 2FTE – 2 people
Counsellors – 3.14FTE – 6 people
Counselling Psychologist – 1FTE – 1 person
Consultant Psychiatrist – 90 pa – vacancy
Associate training counsellors – 2 FTE – 2 people (voluntary)
In addition, we use Barnet Mind Matters (IAPT) to support our students on day a wee (not employed but hosted by the university).

2017/18

Student Mental Counselling and Health Manager 1FTE
Mental Health Advisors 2FTE
Counsellor 3.15FTE
Counselling Psychologist 1FTE
Wellbeing Services Administrator 1FTE
Associate Training Counsellor - Voluntary 0
Psychiatrist - 90 hours 0.05FTE

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

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