

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Model Publication Scheme (MPS) for Further Education (FE) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Introduction

This guide has been produced as a requirement of the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and introduces a Model Publication Scheme to replace the Publication Scheme previously adopted by the College in response to Section 19 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The new Model Publication Scheme and definition document provided by the ICO for Colleges of Further Education has been adopted by Bedford College Group with effect from 1st May 2018.

The Model Publication Scheme provides a list of the information routinely published by Colleges which the ICO expects them to make available unless:

- They do not hold the information
- The information is exempt under one of the FOI exemptions or Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs) exceptions, or its release is prohibited under another statute
- The information is archived, out of date or otherwise inaccessible, or, it would be impractical or resource-intensive to prepare the material for routine release.

The Model Publication Scheme and definition document for Further Education Colleges can be downloaded by following the links from <http://www.ico.gov.uk>

Information to be made available by the College

The information colleges routinely publish falls into the following categories – these have been determined by the ICO:

1. Who we are and what we do – Organisational information – corporate governance, locations, contacts
2. What we spend and how we spend it – Published accounts
3. What our priorities are and how we are doing – Annual review, performance indicators, inspections and reviews
4. How we make decisions – corporate governance and records of decisions
5. Our policies and procedures – Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivery of College services and responsibilities
6. The services we offer – Prospectuses and course guides.

How to obtain information

- Via the College website – www.bedford.ac.uk
- Via email to: info@bedford.ac.uk

General information on the Freedom of Information Act and the Model Publication Scheme can be obtained from:

The Information Commissioner Wycliffe House Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or via the Internet at www.ico.gov.uk .

Charges for information

The College may make a reasonable charge for information which is not available on its website. Where a charge is to be made this will be identified in the Freedom of Information Policy.