

1 September 2021

Mr Noble-Rogers

Our reference: CAS-454275-MQ2J5Y

Sent by email to:

J.Noble-Rogers@ucet.ac.uk

Dear Mr Noble-Rogers

Your request for information

Thank you for your email of 3 August 2021 in which you made a further request for the following:

“details of the specific pieces of evidence collected by Ofsted during the 75 research visits on training Teachers during COVID19 which can be equated with the following three conclusions of the resulting report published on 19 May 2021:

- Too few partnerships have a sufficiently ambitious ITE curriculum. For example, only a minority of partnerships could demonstrate that they had incorporated trainees’ statutory minimum curriculum entitlement into their plans, and very few had gone beyond it.
- Too many partnerships are overly reliant on the experiences that trainees gain through placements to provide ITE curriculum content in subjects and phases.
- While many partnerships have found innovative methods for enabling trainees to make up for lost time in the classroom due to COVID-19, these efforts are unlikely to be enough to provide trainees with full and rounded ITE.”

As requested, we have dealt with your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

The first requirement of the Act is that we should confirm whether we hold information of the description set out in your request. Under the FOI Act, we must provide you with all the information we hold which falls within the scope of your request, unless it is ‘exempt’ information.

I can confirm that we do hold evidence relating to the three conclusions you specified. However, we are unable to release specific pieces of evidence gathered during the ITE remote research visits. Participation in the remote research visits was voluntary and informed consent was obtained on the basis that anonymity would be

protected. It is not possible to share specific pieces of evidence without breaching anonymity.

The report, *Teaching Teachers during Covid-19*, does however give an overview of the evidence collected in support of each of its conclusions across the main body of the report. In addition, the report is clear that evidence was collected across five different focus groups and by looking at curriculum plans.

This information is exempt under section 40(1) of the FOI Act. This is explained in full in Annex A.

I trust that this letter clearly explains our position. If you have any queries about our response, please contact me at 0300 0131 108 and I will do my best to address them.

If you are dissatisfied with our response or the handling of your request, you may request a formal internal review. Details of how to do this are set out in Annex B at the end of this letter. Please note, our physical offices are currently only open in a limited capacity so we cannot accept correspondence by post at this time.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry McTear
Information Access Officer
Information Rights and Access Team

Annex A – Exempt information

The FOI Act describes circumstances in which information is 'exempt' and therefore does not have to be provided in response to a request. On this occasion, we have concluded that, at this time, the exemption at section 41 applies to the information you have requested as it was information supplied in confidence.

Section 41 applies to information received by a public authority that attracts a duty of confidence, where disclosure of that information to a member of the public would be a breach of confidence which would be actionable through the courts.

Partnerships gave their consent to take part in this research on the understanding that any information they provided would be in confidence and not shared with other third parties.

As we do not have consent to release this information and release may have a significant negative impact on the partnerships, to the extent that they would have an actionable case for breach of confidence, the exemption applies, so this information cannot be released to you under the FOI Act.

Annex B - Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with our response or the handling of your request, you may request a formal internal review. To do this, please write to the following address, setting out the area(s) of the response you are unhappy with:

Email: Richard McGowan at: informationrequest@ofsted.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether we have complied with our obligations under the FOI Act with respect to your request. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>