

OUTLINE LIST OF EXEMPTIONS UNDER FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Exemptions provide discretionary exceptions to the public's right of access to information held by the University under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. There are 23 exemptions provided under the Act that are either absolute or conditional in their effect, which are as follows:

Absolute Exemptions

Exemptions that are wholly exempt in their application include:

- Information accessible to the applicant by other means (s21)
- Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters (s23)
- Information relating to Court records (s32)
- Parliamentary privilege (s34)
- Information provided in confidence (s41) and
- Information prohibited from disclosure by any other piece of legislation or enactment (s44)

Exemptions that are absolute only in part include:

- Information that would prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs (s36), and
- Personal information (s40)

Conditional Exemptions

Exemptions requiring the application of a public interest test include:

- Information intended for future publication (s22)
- National Security (s24)
- Investigations and proceedings conducted by public authorities (s30)
- Formulation of Government Policy (s35)
- Communications with Her Majesty and honours (s37)
- Health and Safety (s38)
- Environmental information (s39)
- Legal professional privilege (s42)

Exemptions requiring the application of a public interest test and/or a prejudice test include:

- Defence (s26)
- International relations (s27)
- Relations within the United Kingdom (s28)
- The economy (s29)
- Law enforcement (s31)
- Audit Functions (s33)
- Commercial Interests (s43)