

By e-mail

Our ref: 1119

Mr. Mike Buchanan
mb1957@hotmail.co.uk

13 January 2014

Dear Mr. Buchanan,

I am writing to confirm that the University has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 20 December 2013.

You requested the following:

- Giving £15,000 p.a. additional grants to female postgraduate engineering students is discriminating against, and disadvantaging, male students on the basis of their sex, which clearly conflicts with your Equality and Diversity Statement. Do you agree? And if you agree, how do you intend to resolve the matter?

Funding for the programme is in line with UK legislation and justifiable under the Equality Act 2010, as it allows the University to use positive action to address issues of under-representation, where necessary. In this case, there are a disproportionately low number of female students opting to undertake a postgraduate engineering programme at Brunel. By providing the funding, the University hopes to help ensure that female students participate more fully in engineering courses.

We believe we have provided you with all the information you requested. However, if you are unhappy with the way the University has handled your request, or with the information you have received, you may ask for an internal review. You can do this by sending a letter to:

Secretary to Council
Brunel University
UXBRIDGE
UB8 3PH

or by sending an e-mail to foirequests@brunel.ac.uk.

If we are unable to resolve your complaint to your satisfaction, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF

Sincerely,

Mary F. Liddell
Information Access Officer