

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

### **Decision notice**

**Date:** 24 December 2024

**Public Authority:** Uttoxeter Learning Trust

**Address:** c/o Thomas Alleyne's High School  
Dove Bank  
Uttoxeter  
Staffordshire  
ST14 8DU

#### **1. Request:**

The complainant requested the following information from Uttoxeter Learning Trust on 25 October 2024:

' Further to the recent Sky News article relating to an increase in NDAs in schools, I am undertaking a research project in relation to NDAs (or similar) in Staffordshire schools.

Accordingly, I would like to request the following information in accordance with The Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

How many staff employed within the Uttoxeter Learning Trust have left the Trust's employment and signed a non-disclosure agreement/a settlement agreement (or similar) in the academic year 2023-24 and so far during this academic year (2024-25)

Please also confirm whether there was a financial settlement agreed as part of each agreement, and if so the value for each settlement

I would like to confirm that I am not expecting any detail in relation to why a NDA/SA (or similar) was signed, nor the location of where the staff

member(s) worked if applicable, in order to maintain confidentiality; my request is simply as above.'

## **2. Commissioner's Decision:**

A public authority will breach section 10 of FOIA if it fails to respond to a request within 20 working days. Based on evidence available to the Commissioner, by the date of this notice the public authority has not issued a substantive response to this request. Therefore, the Commissioner finds a breach of section 10.

## **3. Steps:**

The public authority must provide a substantive response to the request in accordance with its obligations under FOIA.

The public authority must take this step within 30 calendar days of the date of this decision notice. Failure to comply may result in the Commissioner making written certification of this fact to the High Court pursuant to section 54 of FOIA and may be dealt with as a contempt of court.

## **4. Right of Appeal:**

Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)  
GRC & GRP Tribunals,  
PO Box 9300,  
LEICESTER,  
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963

Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: [grc@justice.gov.uk](mailto:grc@justice.gov.uk)

Website: [www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber](http://www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber)

Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

**Information Commissioner**

**Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF**