

# Freedom of Information & Access to Information and Publication Scheme

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This policy and procedure is subject to The Equality Act 2010 which recognises the following categories of individual as Protected Characteristics: Age, Gender Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion and Belief, Sex (gender), Sexual orientation, Disability.

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## ACCESS TO INFORMATION & PUBLICATION SCHEME

### Introduction

Milton Keynes College is committed to making as much Information about College activities as possible generally available to the public either through published documents (including those published on the College website), or on request.

### Freedom of Information Act 2000: Publication Scheme

Adopting a publication scheme is a requirement of Section 19 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The purpose of the Act is to promote greater openness by public authorities, which include further education colleges.

Milton Keynes College has adopted the Model Publication Scheme produced by the Information Commissioner's Officer for further education colleges in October 2008. The Scheme provides a description of the "classes" or types of information that the Information Commissioner expects colleges of further education to make available. The Model Publication Scheme is attached as appendix 1 to this policy document.

In addition to the model scheme organisations are obliged to produce a guide to the specific information held under each of the classes of information identified in the scheme: this guide is attached as appendix 2 to this policy document.

### How to access information

Milton Keynes College will make available information it holds whether or not listed in the Guide to the Publication Scheme unless identified as not available under one of the exemptions provided for by the legislation. Any documents routinely available to the public are noted in the Guide in the descriptions of the different classes of information.

Some documents covered by the scheme are published in electronic format via the college's website or other websites as indicated. Other documents are only available in hard copy and will be provided on request.

We ask that requests are made in writing and a response will normally be made within 20 working days. Contact details are included at the end of this document.

### Charging Policy

Printed information on courses and services offered by the College is available free of charge, as are packs issued to people responding to notices of job vacancies. If requested, the College will produce publications and documents in other formats where it is reasonably practical to do so. For items not routinely available on request free of charge, or for items in other requested formats which incur additional cost, the College will usually make a charge. The charge will normally comprise the cost of photocopying or scanning or the direct cost of putting the

information into other requested formats, plus postage if applicable. In certain circumstances the college may waive the fee at its absolute discretion. For requests relating to personal data, please refer to the College Data Protection Policy

### Contact

The contact for requests for documents, questions or comments about this policy or the publication scheme is:

DPO  
Milton Keynes College Chaffron Way Campus Leadenhall  
Milton Keynes  
MK6 5LP

Tel: 01908 637036  
Email [dpo@mkcollege.ac.uk](mailto:dpo@mkcollege.ac.uk)

### Complaints outside the College

The College will do everything in its power to meet enquirers' information needs. However, if the College is unable to resolve a complaint, enquirers have the right to complain to the Office of the Information Commissioner, the independent body which oversees the implementation of the Freedom of Information Act. The address is:

#### Information Commissioner

Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

## APPENDIX 1: MILTON KEYNES COLLEGE PUBLICATION SCHEME

### MAIN CLASSES OF INFORMATION

1. What we are and what we do
2. What we spend and how we spend it
3. What our priorities are and how we are doing
4. How we make decisions
5. Our policies and procedures
6. Lists and registers
7. The services we offer

**MODEL PUBLICATION SCHEME FOR FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGES**  
(Information Commissioner's Office October 2008) Descriptions of the 7  
Main Information Classes & Sub – Classes

<b>1 Who we are and what we do</b> Current information on the College, structures, locations and contacts		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
1.1	<b>Legal Framework</b>	Information relating to the legal and corporate status of the institution
1.2	<b>How the institution is organised</b>	Information about the management structure of the institution, including a description of the Statutory Bodies and the organisational structure together with a description of the work of each unit and the names and responsibilities of key personnel. It is also expected that terms of reference, membership and description of all boards and committees would be provided under this heading. It should include department structures and identify senior personnel.
1.3	<b>Lists of and information relating to organisations it works in partnership with and any companies wholly owned by it</b>	On the basis that most of these bodies will be responsible for their own affairs, it is expected that this information need be only sufficient for the purposes of identifying the relationship between these bodies (such as business, the professions and the community) and the college.
1.4	<b>Location and contact details</b>	If possible, named contacts should be given in addition to contact phone numbers and email addresses.
1.5	<b>Student activities</b>	Information relating to the operation and activities of the Student Union and other clubs, associations and non-academic activities that are organised for or by the students can also be included where this information is held by the college.
<b>2 What we spend and how we spend it</b> Financial information relating to projected and actual income and expenditure, procurement, contracts and financial audit. It is expected as a minimum that financial information for the current and previous two financial years should be available.		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>

2.1	<b>Funding/ income</b>	Information on the sources of funding and income, such as funding grants, tuition fees, endowment and investment income (including investment strategy).
2.2	<b>Budgetary and account information</b>	Annual statement of accounts and other information to allow the public to see where money is being spent, where it is or has been planned to spend it and the difference between one and another. It is expected that revenue budgets and budgets for capital expenditure will be included.
2.3	<b>Financial audit reports</b>	
2.4	<b>Capital programme</b>	Information on major plans for capital expenditure including any public private partnership contracts.
2.5	<b>Financial regulations and procedures</b>	
2.6	<b>Staff pay and grading structures / Allowances</b>	This may be provided as part of the organisational structure and should indicate, for most posts, levels of pay rather than individual salaries. Details of allowances / expenses for Staff & Governors.
2.7	<b>Register of suppliers</b>	
2.8	<b>Procurement and tender procedures and reports</b>	Details of procedures used for the acquisition of goods and services. Contracts currently available for public tender and reports of successful tenders.
2.9	<b>Contracts</b>	It is expected normally that it should be necessary only to publish details of contracts that are of sufficient size to have gone through a formal tendering process.

### **3 What our priorities are and how we are doing**

Strategies and plans, performance indicators, audits, inspections and reviews.

It is expected that information in this class will be available at least for the current and previous three years.

Below is a list of the type of information that it is expected that colleges of further education will have readily available for publication. Any other reports or recorded information demonstrating the college's planned or actual performance should normally be included.

<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
3.1	<b>Annual Report</b>	
3.2	<b>Corporate and Business Plans</b>	

3.3	<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Strategy / Self-Assessment / Ofsted Report</b>	
3.4	<b>Academic Quality &amp; Standards</b>	Information on the college's internal procedures for assuring academic quality and standards and qualitative data on the quality and standards of learning and teaching.
3.5	<b>External Review Information</b>	This will include information such as the annual monitoring and review process together with a statement of roles, responsibilities and authority of different bodies within the institution involved in programme approval and review.
3.6	<b>Corporate Relations</b>	Information relating to the college's links with employers and the development of learning programmes.
3.7	<b>Government &amp; Regulatory Reports</b>	For example, accreditation and monitoring reports by professional, statutory or regulatory bodies and information that an institution is legally obliged to make available to its funding and/or monitoring bodies.
<b>4 How we make decisions</b>		
Decision making processes and records of decisions.		
It is expected that information in this class will be available at least for the current and previous three years.		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
4.1	<b>Minutes from governing body, council, academic boards and steering groups</b>	It is expected that minutes of meetings where key decisions are made about the operation of the college, excluding material that is properly considered to be private, will be readily available to the public.
4.2	<b>Teaching and learning committee minutes /Academic Boards</b>	
4.3	<b>Minutes of staff / student consultation meetings</b>	
4.4	<b>Appointment committees and procedures</b>	

## 5 Our policies and procedures

Current written protocols, policies and procedures for delivering our services and responsibilities.

It is expected that information in this class will be current information only.

5.1	<b>Policies and procedures for conducting college business</b>	Codes of practice, memoranda of understanding, procedural rules, standing orders and similar information should be included. Procedures for handling requests for information should be included
5.2	<b>Procedures and policies relating to academic services</b>	Some of these policies may already be covered in class 2 (?) 'What our priorities are and how we are doing' in the context of external review and academic quality and standards. Additional policies under this heading may include such matters as policies and procedures relating to changing course, regulations and policy on student assessment, appeal procedures and policy on breach of assessment regulations.
5.3	<b>Procedures and policies relating to student services</b>	This will include relevant policies and procedures as they apply, for example, to student admission and registration, accommodation, management of the student records system, the assessment of external qualifications, internal student complaints and appeals, and code of student discipline.
5.4	<b>Procedures and policies relating to human resources</b>	This will include the full range of human resources policies and procedures such as generic terms and conditions of employment, collective bargaining and consultation with trade unions, grievance, disciplinary, harassment and bullying, public interest disclosure, staff development (such as induction, probation, appraisal, promotions).
5.5	<b>Procedures and policies relating to recruitment</b>	If vacancies are advertised as part of recruitment policies, details of current vacancies will be readily available.
5.6	<b>Code of Conduct for members of governing bodies</b>	
5.7	<b>Equality and Diversity</b>	This will also include policies, statements, procedures and guidelines relating to equal opportunities.
5.8	<b>Health and Safety</b>	
5.9	<b>Estate management</b>	This will include disposals policy, estates strategy and plan, facilities management policies, grounds and building maintenance.
5.10	<b>Complaints policies and procedures</b>	Complaints procedures will include those covering requests for information and operating the publication scheme.

5.11	<b>Records management and personal data policies</b>	This will include information security policies, records retention and archive policies, and data protection (including data sharing) policies.
5.12	<b>Charging regimes and policies</b>	

<b>6 Lists and Registers</b>		
It is expected that this information will be contained only in currently maintained lists and registers.		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
6.1	<b>Any information we are currently legally required to hold in publicly available registers</b>	
6.2	<b>Asset registers</b>	It is not expected that colleges will publish all details from all asset registers. It is expected that some information from capital asset registers will be available.
6.3	<b>Disclosure logs</b>	Where a department produces a disclosure log indicating the information that has been provided in response to request it should be readily available. Disclosure logs are themselves recommended as good practice.
6.4	<b>CCTV</b>	Details on the location of overt CCTV surveillance cameras, as appropriate
<b>7 The services we offer</b>		
Information about the services we offer, including leaflets, guidance and newsletters.		
Generally, this is an extension of part of the first class of information. While the first class provides information on the roles and responsibilities of the college, this class includes details of the services which are provided by the college as a result of them. It will also relate to information covered in other classes. Examples of other services that could be included are listed below		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
7.1	<b>Prospectus and Course content</b>	
7.2	<b>Health Advice</b>	
7.3	<b>Careers Advice</b>	

7.4	<b>Chaplaincy Services</b>	
7.5	<b>Services for which the College is entitled to recover a fee (together with those fees)</b>	
7.6	<b>Sports &amp; recreational facilities</b>	
7.7	<b>Museums, libraries, special collections and archives</b>	It is expected that this will include guides to collections and scope and availability of catalogues.
7.8	<b>Conference facilities</b>	
7.9	<b>Advice and guidance / Welfare / Funding</b>	This includes services such as Grants & Bursaries.
7.10	<b>Local campaigns</b>	
7.11	<b>Media releases</b>	

## GUIDE TO DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE UNDER THE PUBLICATION SCHEME

(all requests via the Freedom of Information Manager )

This is not an exhaustive list but indicative of the types of document held. If a document you require is not shown in this guide please contact the Freedom of information Manager. Some information may in some circumstances be exempt from disclosure

\*Items are held on the College website

1 Who we are and what we do		
Sub classes		Documents
1.1	<b>Legal Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instrument and Articles of Governance</li> <li>• Legal status - conferred by the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1992/29">Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (legislation.gov.uk)</a></li> <li>• Charitable status - The college is an exempt charity under the powers conferred by the Further and Higher Education Act 1992</li> </ul>
1.2	<b>How the Institution is organised</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introduction to the College*</b></li> <li>• <b>Corporation Meetings*</b></li> <li>• <b>College Policies*</b></li> <li>• <b>List of Governors*</b></li> <li>• <b>Governing Body and Committee structure *</b></li> </ul>
1.3	<b>Lists of and information relating to organisations it works in partnership with and any companies wholly owned by it</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and Skills Funding Agency</li> <li>• Higher Education Funding Council</li> <li>• Ofsted</li> <li>• Department for Business Innovation and Skills</li> <li>• Department for Education</li> <li>• Examining Boards</li> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Employers</li> <li>• Local Authorities</li> <li>• Sector Skills Councils</li> </ul>

1.4	<b>Location and contact details</b>	<p>email : <a href="mailto:info@mkcollege.ac.uk">info@mkcollege.ac.uk</a></p> <p>website (including staff contact details)  <a href="http://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/">http://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/</a></p> <p>Addresses:</p> <p>Chaffron Way Campus  Woughton Campus West  Leadenhall  Milton Keynes MK6  5LP</p> <p>Tel: 01908 684444</p> <p>Bletchley Campus  Sherwood Drive  Bletchley  MK3 6DR</p>
1.5	<b>Student activities</b>	<p><a href="#">Life at MK College*</a></p>

## 2 What we spend and how we spend it

Sub classes		Documents
2.1	<b>Funding/ income</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Budget as approved by Corporation</li> <li>• Annual audited financial statements</li> <li>• Financial Regulations</li> <li>• <a href="#">Report and Financial Statements*</a></li> </ul>
2.2	<b>Budgetary and account information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual audited financial statements</li> <li>• Annual budget as approved by Corporation</li> <li>• Management accounts as reported to Corporation</li> <li>• <a href="#">Report and Financial Statements*</a></li> </ul>
2.3	<b>Financial audit reports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Report and Financial Statements*</a></li> <li>• Regularity Audit Report</li> <li>• Annual Internal Audit Report</li> </ul>

2.4	<b>Capital programme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minutes of Corporation Meeting report progress on capital projects</li> <li>• Annual Budget</li> </ul>
2.5	<b>Financial regulations and procedures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial regulations</li> <li>• <a href="#">Annual Report on Senior Post Holders and Governors Expenses</a> *</li> </ul>
2.6	<b>Staff pay and grading structures</b>	Salary grades & pay
2.7	<b>Register of suppliers</b>	Register of College suppliers contained in the Financial Information System
2.8	<b>Procurement and tender procedures and reports</b>	Financial Regulations
2.9	<b>Contracts</b>	Sub Contracts are identified with the Skills Funding Agency for providers listed in the <a href="#">Register of Training Organisations</a>
<b>3 What our priorities are and how we are doing</b>		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Documents</b>
3.1	<b>Annual Report</b>	<a href="#">Report and Financial Statements</a> *
3.2	<b>Corporate and Business Plans</b>	Strategic plan
3.3	<b>Teaching &amp; Learning Strategy / Self-Assessment / Ofsted Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality Strategy (This incorporates all policies relating to the quality of Teaching and Learning)</li> <li>• Tutorial Policy</li> <li>• <a href="#">Ofsted Report</a> *</li> <li>• Self-Assessment Report</li> </ul>
3.4	<b>Academic Quality &amp; Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Self-Assessment Report</li> <li>• Quality Strategy</li> <li>• Accreditation and monitoring reports by professional, statutory or regulatory bodies</li> <li>• Assessment appeals</li> <li>• Course reviews</li> <li>• Internal verification</li> </ul>

3.5	<b>External Review Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External Verifier Reports and Action Plans</li> <li>Audit Reports</li> </ul>
3.6	<b>Corporate Relations</b>	Marketing strategy
3.7	<b>Government &amp; Regulatory Reports</b>	<a href="#">Ofsted Inspection Report</a>
<b>4 How we make decisions</b>		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Documents</b>
4.1	<b>Minutes from governing body, council, academic boards and steering groups</b>	<u>Minutes and papers of Governing Body meetings*</u> Remuneration Committee minutes are confidential due to Data Protection and Commercial Sensitivity issues. Very occasionally papers presented to or minutes of other meetings will be identified as confidential.
4.2	<b>Teaching and Learning committee minutes</b>	Minutes of Management Meetings and Curriculum Faculties
4.3	<b>Minutes of staff / Student consultation meetings</b>	Student Council
4.4	<b>Appointment committees and procedures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment Policies and procedures</li> <li>Appointment procedures for Governors</li> </ul>
<b>5 Our policies and procedures</b>		
<b>Sub classes</b>		<b>Documents</b>
5.1	<b>Policies and procedures for conducting college business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">College Policies*</a></li> <li><a href="#">Access to College and Corporation Information*</a></li> </ul>
5.2	<b>Procedures and policies relating to academic services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examination Policy</li> <li>Students Appeals Policy</li> </ul>

5.3	<b>Procedures and policies relating to student services</b>	Student Handbook Course Handbook (Includes LRC Information) IT Acceptable Use Policy
5.4	<b>Procedures and policies relating to human resources</b>	Conditions of Service Local recognition and procedural agreement Grievance policy Disciplinary & Performance policy Harassment and bullying policy Sickness Absence/Leave Policy Health and safety policy Access to College and Corporation Information Policy
5.5	<b>Procedures and policies relating to recruitment</b>	Recruitment Policies and procedures
5.6	<b>Code of Conduct for members of governing bodies</b>	Code of Conduct for members of governing body
5.7	<b>Equality and Diversity</b>	<a href="#">Equality and Diversity Values Statement*</a>
5.8	<b>Health and Safety</b>	Health & Safety Policy
5.9	<b>Estate management</b>	Property strategy (under development)
5.10	<b>Complaints policies and procedures</b>	Student/ Customer Concerns & Complaints Procedure Staff Grievance Policy
5.11	<b>Records management and personal data policies</b>	<a href="#">Data protection policy and Freedom of Information policy*</a>

5.12	<b>Charging regimes and policies</b>	Fees and Charges Policy Financial Regulations
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## 6 Lists and Registers

We expect this to be information contained only in currently maintained lists and registers.

Sub classes		Documents
6.1	<b>Any information we are currently legally required to hold in publicly available registers</b>	Register of Interests for Staff and Governors
6.2	<b>Asset registers</b>	Asset register
6.3	<b>Disclosure logs</b>	<a href="#">Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy and Procedures</a> *
6.4	<b>CCTV</b>	CCTV is used for surveillance at the entrances and car parks at each Campus.

## 7 The services we offer

Sub classes		Documents
7.1	<b>Prospectus and Course content</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course leaflets</li> <li>• Prospectus</li> <li>• <a href="#">College Website – Course Search</a>*</li> </ul>
7.2	<b>Health Advice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Handbook</li> <li>• <a href="#">Welfare Statement of Service</a>*</li> </ul>
7.3	<b>Careers Advice</b>	<a href="#">College Website - Careers and Jobs</a> *
7.4	<b>Chaplaincy Services</b>	None
7.5	<b>Services for which the College is entitled to recover a fee</b>	Fees and Charges policy
7.6	<b>Sports &amp; recreational facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Handbook</li> <li>• <a href="#">College Website</a>*</li> </ul>

7.7	<b>Museums, libraries, collections archives</b>	<b>special and</b>	Learning Resource Centre
7.8	<b>Conference facilities</b>		n/a
7.9	<b>Advice and guidance / Welfare &amp; Funding</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Handbook</li> <li>• <a href="#">College Website*</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Welfare &amp; Funding*</a></li> </ul>
7.10	<b>Local campaigns</b>		None
7.11	<b>Media releases</b>		Press releases/College Website

Please send your FOI request to:

DPO  
Milton Keynes College  
Chaffron Way Campus  
Leadenhall, Milton Keynes  
MK6 5LP

Telephone number: 01908 637036

E-mail: [dpo@mkcollege.ac.uk](mailto:dpo@mkcollege.ac.uk)

**Important note – if the information you have asked for requires a fee, we will let you know on receipt of your request. If you choose to accept this fee charge, we will process your request upon receipt of payment**