

Request Reference: 3344

FOI Request dated 19/02/2025 –

1. *Does your institution have a policy or guidance on supporting people who menstruate?*
2. *Does this relate to staff, students or both?*
3. *Are pre-menstrual symptoms, period pain or similar included in the reasons students can request an assessment extension?*
4. *Are pre-menstrual symptoms, period pain or similar included in the reasons students can request consideration related to poor exam performance?*

Response

1 & 2-

At this current time the University of Hull does not have a staff or student policy/guidance with regards to menstruation specifically.

However, the University does have a guidance document on the menopause, of which heavy periods can form one of a complex set of symptoms associated with the perimenopause. This document includes guidance for managers, available support, and reasonable adjustments for staff experiencing the symptoms of perimenopause, which includes heavy periods (please see attached).

In addition to this, free sanitary products are available to both staff and students on campus to help tackle period poverty.

3 & 4 –

Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) places two duties on public authorities. Unless exemptions apply, the first duty at Section 1(1)(a) is to confirm or deny whether the information specified in a request is held. The second duty at Section 1(1)(b) is to disclose information that has been confirmed as being held. Where exemptions are relied upon Section 17 of FOIA requires that we provide the applicant with a notice which: a) states that fact b) specifies the exemption(s) in question and c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

It has been determined that this information is exempt on the basis that s21 of the Act applies – Information Reasonably Accessible by Other Means. As this exemption is absolute there is no requirement for me to conduct a public interest test, however in order to provide assistance I provide the following link which includes the annexe on self-cert. Limits on self-cert is 2 per trimester, with a max of 3 per academic year.

[ucop-requests-for-extensions-and-add-consideration-v1-04-may-2024.docx](#)