

Freedom of Information Request from Steven Harkins
Received 31st January 2011

Dear Newcastle University,

To the University of Newcastle. This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please could you send me copies of all correspondence between James Tooley and the Taxpayers Alliance of which he is a member of the academic advisory board.

Yours faithfully,

Steven Harkins

Our Response

Professor James Tooley is a member of the academic advisory board of the Taxpayers' Alliance as a private individual, and not as a representative of Newcastle University. Newcastle University has located some communications in the form of e-mails to/from James Tooley, which refer to the Taxpayers Alliance.

In Professor Tooley's CV the following indicates his membership of the Taxpayers' Alliance:

Member of Academic Advisory Council for think tanks including: Reform, Taxpayers' Alliance, Civitas, Institute of Economic Affairs, Globalisation Institute. He is thought leader for Schoolventures. Established IEA's Education & Training Unit in 1995 and directed this for its duration.

Newcastle University has applied redaction to some of the information since we consider that an exemption under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "FOI Act") applies to it. This exemption is absolute and as such is not subject to a public interest test under the FOI Act.

Newcastle University considers that this information is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the FOI Act by virtue of section 40(3)(a), which provides that information which falls within any of paragraphs (a) to (d) of the definition of "data" in section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (the "DPA") shall not be disclosed if it would contravene any of the data protection principles.

The first data protection principle requires that personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully and in particular shall not be processed unless at least one of the conditions in Schedule 2 of the DPA is met. The University has considered whether condition 6 of Schedule 2 has been met but finds that there is no public interest in the disclosure of this personal information and that the processing in this regard is unwarranted because it has not the consent of the data subject for the processing of this information.

-----Original Message-----

From: James Tooley

Sent: 08 February 2010 13:45

To: [REDACTED]@taxpayersalliance.com

Subject: FW: Meeting

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope all is well.

I'm giving a lecture in London on March 10th, as in the attached. I wonder if it would be possible to circulate this to your members? The organisers have said that anyone from Taxpayers' Alliance can have a £10 door price. (I'm asking the organisers to add Taxpayers' Alliance to my list of organisations!)

Be good to meet up some time when I'm in London,

Best wishes

James

James Tooley, PhD
Professor of Education Policy
King George VI Building
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NE1 7RU
England

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<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/egwest>

If your email contains a request for information that you feel may fall under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Data Protection Act 1998, please refer to the Newcastle University guidelines on how to access Freedom of Information data at <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/foi> or email Rec-Man@ncl.ac.uk where your request will be dealt with centrally.

-----Original Message-----

From: James Tooley
Sent: 08 February 2010 13:46
To: [REDACTED]@learningskillsfoundation.com
Subject: RE: Meeting

I've just sent this to IEA, Reform and Civitas. "The Taxpayers' Alliance" are also likely to circulate to their members - but can you also add them to my advisory councils first!

Best wishes

James

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From: James Tooley
Sent: 08 February 2010 15:12
To: [REDACTED]@taxpayersalliance.com
Subject: FW: Meeting

Dear [REDACTED]

Here is the invitation with your think tank added.

Best wishes

James

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]mailto:[REDACTED]@taxpayersalliance.com]
Sent: 09 February 2010 16:33
To: James Tooley
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting

Hi James,

Thank you for mentioning the TPA in your bio! We'll mention the meeting to our supporters in our weekly email bulletin on Friday

When you deliver this lecture, how long will you be in London for? As you say, it'd be good to meet up

Best,
[REDACTED]

PLEASE NOTE WE'RE MOVING OFFICE ON 12 FEBRUARY 2010 - NEW ADDRESS BELOW!

[REDACTED]
The TaxPayers' Alliance
55 Tufton Street | London SW1P 3QL

[REDACTED]
www.taxpayersalliance.com

A number of the messages refer to "the invitation", which is as follows-

LEARNING SKILLS FOUNDATION® LECTURE SERIES

**in association with
THE INDEPENDENT**

AGENDA FOR CHANGE

What lessons can be learned by an incoming Government
of the attempts of previous Governments to transform schools?

Wednesday 10th March 2010

at

Sixty One, Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

6.30 pm (Doors 6.00 pm)

(Nearest tubes: Westminster, Embankment and Charing Cross)

**Tickets: £10 for tickets purchased in advance, or £12 on the door. All tickets
available**

only from the Learning Skills Foundation

www.learningskillsfoundation.com

SPEAKERS

Professor James Tooley (Keynote Speaker)

Professor of Education Policy at Newcastle University

Founding President, The Education Fund, Orient Global

Professor Tooley is a member of the academic advisory councils for several think-
tanks,

including Reform, Civitas, Institute of Economic Affairs. Author of "The Beautiful
Tree"

(Penguin 2009)

His talk will be:

**"Should a new Government be considering radical alternatives to achieve
transformation?"**

and

Amanda Spielman

Research and Development Director for ARK Schools where

she is also responsible for legal, regulatory and governance matters. She is a director of New Schools
Network and a member of the Sykes Review Group commissioned to review the current school
assessment

system. Amanda studied comparative education at the Institute of Education.

Her talk will be:

**"Has the increased volume of legislation and increased Government
involvement transformed education in the UK?"**