Extracts from Letters to the Vice-Chancellor from CRU staff concerning email deletion:

Phil Jones

"As I have said on a number of occasions I do delete emails from time to time - this is usually as part of a regular clear out but sometimes as I go along".

"Most people seem to do the same to keep their email account manageable and because we are regularly reminded when storage space on our email system is nearly full".

"There is also an environmental and economic cost to storing emails so it seems to me that it is not good practice just to keep everything"

"It would be very difficult to guess what might be asked for in future so I don't go around deleting emails just because they might be asked for at some point."

"I have previously confirmed that I have never knowingly deleted an email that was the subject of an active Freedom of Information request and neither have I deleted data".

Keith Briffa

"For my part I wish to assure you that I have not knowingly deleted emails or files that were at the time subject to a request under FOIA or EIR, and will not do so in the future".

"I also assure you that I will not suggest to anyone that they should delete emails or files subject to similar requests under FOIA or EIR".

"I will use whatever means at my disposal to encourage greater openness and proactive compliance with FOIA and EIR within the CRU and the wider University."