

Mr. David Holland

26 January 2011

Dear Mr. Holland

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST
(Our Ref: FOI_10-144)**

Your request for information received on 22 December 2010 for correspondence between the University and Sir Muir Russell that, in the view of the University, comprises the contractual basis under which Sir Muir and his team operated has now been considered and pursuant to your rights under section 1(1)(a) of Freedom of Information Act 2000 to be informed whether information is held, I can inform you that we do not hold the requested information.

The University does not consider that there was a contractual relationship with Sir Muir Russell or the inquiry team; it was by way of a public appointment (as is commonplace in these circumstances). Therefore, there is no information that comprises a 'contractual basis' between the University and Sir Muir Russell

Nonetheless, it may be helpful to you in understanding the terms on which the appointment was made if we refer you to and attach the agreed terms of reference and certain email correspondence between Professor Acton and Sir Muir. Pursuant to section 40(2) of the Act, we have redacted personal data from this exchange which is not relevant to the substance of your inquiry as release of this information would contravene the first data protection principle.

For your convenience, I have reproduced your request in the attachment to this letter and repeated our response thereunder. Please note that there is also one (1) attached .pdf file that is part of our response.

I would add that any material released over which UEA has copyright is released subject to the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information released.

You have the right of appeal against this decision. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your grounds of appeal and send to me at:

University of East Anglia
Norwich
NR4 7TJ
Telephone: 01603 593 523
E-mail: foi@uea.ac.uk

You must appeal our decision within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow, Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

www.ico.gov.uk

Please quote our reference given at the head of this letter in all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

David Palmer

Information Policy and Compliance Manager

University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information request (FOI_10-144)

While I am still digesting the disclosures you have made under FOI_10-112; EIR_10-14 a more fundamental issue has arisen. Sir Muir and his team appear to be reticent to provide answers on a number of issues in relation to their Review undertaken on behalf of UEA. This is in contrast with the House of Commons Select Committee recommendation that the Review should be open and transparent. I wish therefore to understand better the relationship between the University and the Review as on the face it information held by the Review team members and their service providers may technically "be held" by the University for the purposed of the EIR.

Please provide me copies of the Correspondence between the University and Sir Muir Russell that, in the view of the University, comprises the contractual basis under which Sir Muir and his team operated and under which the University was contractually obliged to pay the sums that you have disclosed of what, I assume, is taxpayers money.

The University does not consider that there was a contractual relationship with Sir Muir Russell or the inquiry team; it was by way of a public appointment (as is commonplace in these circumstances).

Nonetheless, it may be helpful to you in understanding the terms on which the appointment was made if we refer you to the agreed terms of reference (see: <http://www.cce-review.org/pdf/FINAL%20REPORT.pdf>, p.22) and certain email correspondence between Professor Acton and Sir Muir. (see attached .pdf file). Pursuant to section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we have redacted personal data from this exchange which is not relevant to the substance of your inquiry.