

Mr. David Holland

11 February 2011

Dear Mr. Holland

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST  
(Our file: FOI\_11-034)**

I acknowledge your request for information received on 27 January 2011. Please accept my apologies for the delay in acknowledging this request. Your request is being considered and you will receive the information requested within the statutory timescale of 20 working days as defined by the Freedom of Information Act 2000, subject to the information not being exempt or containing a reference to a third party.

As explained in our letter of today's date acknowledging your appeal of our response in another matter (our file FOI\_10-144), it is our belief that some of the questions you asked of us in that regard are best dealt with as a new request and we have combined them within this request. To re-iterate, we are dealing with questions 1,2,4, 5 and 7 within this request. For clarity, I attach a copy of your appeal with our numbering inserted.

If appropriate, the information may be provided in paper copy, normal font size. If you require alternative formats, e.g. language, audio, large print, etc. then please let me know.

For your information, the Act defines a number of exceptions which may prevent release of the information you have requested. There will be an assessment and if an exemption applies then the information will not be released. You will be informed if this is the case, including your rights of appeal.

If the information you request contains reference to a third party then they may be consulted prior to a decision being taken on whether or not to release the information to you. You will be informed if this is the case.

There may a fee payable for this information. This will be considered and you will be informed if a fee is payable. In this event the fee must be paid before the information is processed and released. The 20 working day time limit for responses is suspended until receipt of the payment.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me at:

University of East Anglia  
Norwich  
NR4 7TJ

Telephone: 01603 593 523

E-mail: [foi@uea.ac.uk](mailto:foi@uea.ac.uk)

Further information is also available from the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire

SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

[www.ico.gov.uk](http://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

From: David Holland [request-55579-a6430779@whatdotheyknow.com]  
Sent: 27 January 2011 11:36  
To: Freedom of Information  
Subject: Internal review of Freedom of Information request - More  
Climategate  
Loose Ends

Dear University of East Anglia,

Please pass this on to the person who conducts Freedom of Information reviews.

I am writing to request an internal review of University of East Anglia's handling of my FOI request 'More Climategate Loose Ends'.

Dear Mr Palmer,

Your Ref: FOI\_10-144

Thank you for your letter of 26 January 2011. I regret to say that I must, yet again, ask that you reconsider your response and advise that I shall later make further requests arising from this matter.

I am perplexed that the University does not consider that there was a contractual relationship between it and Sir Muir Russell, as you very kindly attached an email exchange which, though I am not lawyer, I am confident is proof positive that there was a contract, since:

(a) There is the unqualified acceptance by Sir Muir - "I am happy to sign up on this basis".

(b) There is a specified "service" - "the Independent Review", the terms of which were proposed in the attachment sent by the University and agreed by Sir Muir.

(c) There is a "consideration" offered by the University - £40,000 plus expenses and an unqualified undertaking to cover "fees" charged for the additional expertise required by Sir Muir.

(d) You have in response to another request revealed that the total cost to the University of the Independent Review was nearly £300,000.

[1] Please supply the draft announcement sent to Sir Muir and which he was happy to sign up to as this rather than what was published appears to be the basis of the agreement.

[2] Please confirm that the University now accepts that Sir Muir Russell carried out his Independent Review on behalf of the the University and under contract to it.

[3] Please supply without redactions point 3 of Professor Acton's email to Sir Muir which is clearly part of the contract or it would not have been written.

[4] Please supply the earlier email from Professor Acton to Sir Muir referred to in the paragraph following point 5.

[5] Please supply any contemporaneous note Professor Acton took of the the "taxi" conversation referred to.

[6] Please carefully search for any earlier or later information which might amount to variations in the contract terms, for instance there

must have been some discussions, invoices and documentation to support the substantial cost beyond the £40k fee to Sir Muir.

[7] In particular I wish to see any document that instructs or permits Sir Muir to "centralise" or "consolidate" elsewhere all the information pertaining to the Review originally "held" by public authorities subject to FoIA/EIR and to then delete it from the original authority's records.

[8] I note that you have not assigned an EIR reference to this request and would ask that you carefully reconsider the classification of it. I think this week's Report of the Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology leaves no room to dispute that my requests are integral to a full understanding by the public of the most important "environmental matter" this country faces. This clearly alters the balance in favour of disclosure.

Yours sincerely

David Holland

Note:

A full history of my FOI request and all correspondence is available on the Internet at this address:

[http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/more\\_climategate\\_loose\\_ends](http://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/more_climategate_loose_ends)

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Please use this email address for all replies to this request: [request-55579-a6430779@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-55579-a6430779@whatdotheyknow.com)

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