

30 April 2020

Ref: FOI20 - 165

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your email of 18th April 2020 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see the responses to each of your questions below:

In early 2020, a student in the English Department was allegedly subjected to an ongoing series of racist emails. This was used by various student activists to castigate the university, and a Police investigation was launched. Various staff and students signed a petition that was racist in its characterisation of 'whiteness' as a problem.

I would like to know if the Police drew any conclusions, in particular as to whether these racist emails were in fact sent by the student herself, or close friends of hers to whip up a fake racial moral panic in Exeter for political purposes.

The University can confirm they are aware of this matter. However, we are not able to comment on police business and police investigations. You may wish to contact the police about this particular matter under their Freedom of Information Act - <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/your-right-to-information/freedom-of-information/>

This response has been prepared in accordance with a request received pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The supply of documents under FOI does not give the person who receives the information an automatic right to re-use the documents without obtaining the consent of the copyright holder. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. You must submit this to the Information Governance Office in writing within 40 days of receipt of this notification. Please quote the reference number above.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. (<https://ico.org.uk/>)

Kind Regards,

Information Governance

University of Exeter

