

Our Reference: FOI.2018.09.375

**UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM**

Legal Services

James Brackley
What do they know

**Director
Mrs C M E Pike LLB
Solicitor**

(By Email)

05 November 2018

Dear Mr Brackley

Re: request for information under The Freedom of Information Act.

Further to your request for information dated 21 September 2018, please find attached the University of Birmingham's response. If you have any queries with regard to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please note our statement in respect of Copyright, which is also attached.

If you are dissatisfied with the manner in which your request has been dealt with, you may ask for an internal review. The University's Complaints and Appeals procedure is available at

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/governance/policies-regs/information/index.aspx>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
University of Birmingham

Encs

Your request for information reads:

“ I would like to request further disclosure of the full costs associated with the University of Birmingham Executive Board (UEB) with some additional detail.

I would like to request summary information covering the full costs of associated with the UEB over the past 5 years (financial year ends 2014 through to 2018). This should include the remuneration (as disclosed in note 7. of the University's annual accounts) but in addition should include any other costs such as employer's pensions contributions, expense claims, and the value of any other benefits such as rent free accommodation.

In addition to the summary information above, I would also like to request a detailed itemised list of all expenses claimed for the financial year ending July 2018 covering members of the UEB for that year. Again, this should also include disclosure of any other benefits such as rent free accommodation, private transport, food, and any other benefits provided at the University's expense.

This information should be available from the University's finance department.”

The University of Birmingham responds:

The University of Birmingham is required to respond to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”) if it holds the information being requested, unless it is appropriate to apply one of the limited exemptions set out in the Act.

I would like to request summary information covering the full costs of associated with the UEB over the past 5 years (financial year ends 2014 through to 2018). This should include the remuneration (as disclosed in note 7. of the University's annual accounts) but in addition should include any other costs such as employer's pensions contributions, expense claims, and the value of any other benefits such as rent free accommodation.

The University publishes in its Annual Accounts details of remuneration paid to the Vice-Chancellor; to key management personnel (ie UEB) and staff paid more than £100,000 in accordance with HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England) and OfS (Office for Students) guidance.

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/governance/Council/accounts.aspx>

As a requirement of the performance of his office, the Vice-Chancellor occupies University-owned premises at the University of Birmingham. The property is used intensively for corporate meetings and events. This is detailed in the Annual Accounts.

Remuneration data for 2017/18 will be published in this year's Annual Accounts after approval by Council.

The Refusal Notices below explain why the University is referring you to the Annual Accounts.

The table below details total expenses claimed by members of UEB in each of the University Financial Years 2013/14 - 2016/17.

University Financial Year	Total Claimed in expenses
2013/14	£9,566.10
2014/15	£3,064.60
2015/16	£4,644.98
2016/17	£3,411.20

In addition to the summary information above, I would also like to request a detailed itemised list of all expenses claimed for the financial year ending July 2018 covering members of the UEB for that year. Again, this should also include disclosure of any other benefits such as rent free accommodation, private transport, food, and any other benefits provided at the University's expense.

The table below details expenses claimed by members of UEB for the University Financial Year 2017/18, by category of expense.

	Travel*	Subsistence	Other*	Total
Vice-Chancellor	254.34			254.34
Provost and Vice-Principal	101.00			101.00
Registrar & Secretary	77.30			77.30
Director of Finance	187.50			187.50
PVC 1				0
PVC 2	81.34	54.80		136.14
PVC 3	463.25	173.21		636.46
PVC 4				0
PVC 5	4.60			4.60
PVC 6	37.40		8.54	45.94
PVC 7	277.20			277.20
PVC 8				0
Total				1,720.48

**Other" includes membership payments, periodicals, subscriptions etc

**Travel" includes rail, flights, taxis, parking, mileage, visas

As explained above, as a requirement of the performance of his role, the Vice-Chancellor occupies University-owned premises; details relating to 2017/18 will be published in this year's Annual Accounts. Please see Refusal Notice 2 below.

Refusal Notice 1

Reasons for non-disclosure

Section 21 – Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information reasonably accessible by other means

The information you have requested is available to the public on the University's website. Therefore, under Section 21 of the Act, the University has not provided this information. More information about this exemption is available on the Information Commissioner's Office's website. <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Refusal Notice 2

Reasons for non-disclosure

Section 22 – Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information intended for future publication

The University holds the remuneration information requested for 2017/18 and, following consideration and approval by the University's Council, it will be published in the 2017/18 Annual Accounts towards the end of 2018 or beginning of 2019. The University has considered whether to provide you with this information ahead of that publication date, but has decided that it would not be appropriate to do so before the information and other contextual data has been through the proper processes of approval, with review and approval by External Auditors, Audit Committee, SPRC (Strategy, Planning and Resources Committee) and the University's Council, and because the University has a well-established practice of publishing this information annually in its Annual Accounts. Taking these factors into account, the University does not consider it to be in the public interest to disclose this information.

Therefore, under Section 22 of the Act, the University has not provided you with the information you have requested.

More information about the exemption in this section of the Act is available on the Information Commissioner's Office's website <https://ico.org.uk/>.

The University of Birmingham

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