



13 February 2012

Mr John Wicker

Request-103289-65d63c7c@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Wicker

Request Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI Act) 2000

I am formally responding, on behalf of Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU), to your request received by email on 26 January 2012, for a disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You requested information relating to IT support services.

In response to your request, the University is unable to provide a list of model details of the Information Technology (IT) Infrastructure in the interests of maintaining security. The exemption which applies to this information is Section 31, Law Enforcement. This is a "qualified exemption", and as a consequence, the University is obliged to consider whether it is in the public interest to disclose the information. After applying the public interest test, the University considers that the release of the information requested would increase the risk of attacks on its IT systems and would reduce its capability to act in the event of such an attack, and as a result, the release of the information requested would be likely to prejudice the prevention of crime (as detailed in S31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act).

The University has decided to refuse disclosure of all associated costs and contract details under Section 43 of the FOIA. It is considered that the release of such information would place the University at a commercial disadvantage by severely restricting its negotiating powers for future contracts.

The University confirms there is a public interest in ensuring public money is spent wisely and that value for money is achieved. Indeed, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) actively encourages and expects Universities to achieve value for money. However, the University believes the disclosure of this information would severely undermine its ability to achieve value for money from public funding. The University believes that the public interest in ensuring public monies are invested appropriately is served by the monitoring of the University by HEFCE through The Code of Practice 'Audit and Accountability' plus annual and periodic returns.

Denise Tipping : Freedom of Information Officer

Egerton Court, No.2 Rodney Street, Liverpool. L3 5UX Telephone 0151-231-3116 Facsimile 0151-707 2461 E-mail : D.Tipping@ljmu.ac.uk

Finally, the person responsible for the University's IT maintenance support contracts is Mr Mark Wynne, Head of Technical Services.

The University considers it has fully complied with your request, but if you wish to seek an internal review, you should do so in writing to Mr Peter Hinton, Interim Director of Corporate Services, Liverpool John Moores University, 3rd Floor, Kingsway House, Hatton Garden, Liverpool, L3 2AJ or by email at P.G.Hinton@ljmu.ac.uk. A copy of the University's Freedom of Information Complaints and Appeals Procedure is enclosed.

Once having appealed, if you are still not satisfied with our response, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision whether, in any specified respect, your request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of Part I of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Information Commissioner's address is: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Details on how to complain can be found on the Information Commissioner's website: www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Denise Tipping

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Freedom of Information Officer

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