

Mr. Andrew Montford

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Dear Mr. Montford

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST
(Our ref: FOI_11-165; ICO ref no.: FS50420577)

I write in connection with your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the “Act”) dated 18 July 2011 (as clarified on 7 August 2011) for all documentation held by the University related to the Outside Organisation (the “Request”).

You will be aware that under cover of the University’s original response to the Request dated 26 August 2011, certain information was withheld on the basis that the statutory exemptions from disclosure under sections 36(2)(b)(i) & (ii), 40(2), 41(1), and 43(2) of the Act were engaged.

The University has recently elected to undertake a further review of its original position, including engaging in further correspondence with the Outside Organisation in order to ascertain whether it still considers that certain of the withheld information is exempt under sections 41 and/or 43 of the Act.

As a result of that further process, the University has concluded that some of the information previously withheld will now be released, and some redactions in material previously released to you have now been rescinded.

Therefore we attach two files (“Annex 1_final.zip” and “Annex 2_final.zip”) containing further information within the scope of the Request. Annex 1 contains new information to be disclosed now, subject to the appropriate redactions. Annex 2 consists of information which was released to you in a more limited form previously.

In both Annex 1 and Annex 2, redactions have been made pursuant to section 40(2) of the Act, namely that the requested information contains information that meets the definition of ‘personal data’ as defined by section 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998 (the “DPA”) and disclosure of this information would be contrary to the first data protection principle under the DPA.

Additionally, the University maintains its position that certain information within the scope of the Request is exempt from disclosure under section 36(2)(b) of the Act. In the course of the recent review, the Vice Chancellor has also concluded that further or in the alternative, section 36(2)(c) of the Act applies to that information.

Although the University is willing to disclose now certain information to which it considered that statutory exemption applied as at the time of your request, the University considers it lawful and correct that other information continues to be withheld on that basis.

The University has informed the Information Commissioner of the outcome of its further review, as summarised above. However, a copy of this letter will be sent to the Commissioner for the purpose of his investigation regarding your complaint under section 50 of the Act.

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

Yours sincerely

David Palmer
Information Policy & Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia