



30 March 2015

RECORDS MANAGEMENT SECTION

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Mr Naeem Ahmad

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Dear Recipient's name

### **Freedom of information**

Thank you for your email of 24 February 2015 requesting information about donations and funding received by the University from 16 specified Middle Eastern countries between 12 September 2001 and 31 January 2015.

The University of Edinburgh is the largest university in Scotland and one of the UK's top rated research universities. It has over 33,000 students and over 8,800 full-time equivalent staff. In 2013/14 its turnover was over £780 million.

Please note that within the University donations and funding for research treated as separate categories of income.

### **Donations made by nationals of Middle Eastern countries (question 1)**

You asked for the total donations made by nationals of the Middle Eastern countries. The University does not routinely record the nationality of individuals who make donations, therefore it does not hold the information you have requested.

### **Donations from organisations (questions 2 and 3)**

You asked for the total donations made by government and non-government organisations based in the Middle Eastern countries. You asked for this information to be broken down by country and year.

As I explained in my letter of 4 March 2015, the University is unable to provide separate totals for government and non-government organisations as it does not routinely record whether an organisation who makes a donation is government or otherwise. Therefore the table below provides the total donations from government and non-government organisations by country and year.

Please note that most of the income from Saudi Arabia was used to create the University's Alwaleed Centre for Study Islam in the Contemporary World. The Alwaleed

Centre is part of an international network of centres devoted to the promotion of better mutual understanding between the World of Islam and the West. Further information about the Centre is published on the University's website at <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/literatures-languages-cultures/alwaleed>.

**Table 1: Donations from organisations by country and year**

Country	Financial Year	Amount (£)
Saudi Arabia	2008	2,000,000
	2010	2,000,000
	2011	2,016,420
	2012	2,000,000
Qatar	2014	1,712

#### **Donations made to programmes (question 4)**

You asked for the total donations made by nationals and organisations of the Middle Eastern countries to programmes of study with significant Oriental Studies/Islamic (Arabic) Studies/Jewish (Hebrew) studies elements.

The University has no record of donations being used to fund these types of programmes. However, three PhD studentships in the University's Alwaleed Centre for Study Islam in the Contemporary World have been funded by donations included in table 1 above from the Alwaleed bin Talal Foundation in Saudi Arabia. The cost of each studentship includes the overseas tuition fee which is currently £12,600 and an annual stipend which in 2014/15 is £13,836.

#### **Funding for conducting research (question 5)**

You asked for the total funds received for conducting research from the Middle Eastern countries. You asked for this information to be broken down by country and year.

The table below provides a breakdown of the amounts received from organisations to fund research.

**Table 2: Funding received for research by country and year**

Country	Financial Year	Amount (£)
Saudi Arabia	2001	440
	2002	1,073
	2011	363
	2012	21,492
	2013	20,550

Qatar	2013	53,359
	2014	36,825
United Arab Emirates	2002	43,271
	2003	115,551
	2004	99,935
	2005	95,731
	2006	39,846
	2007	24,076
	2008	25,388
	2009	4,743
	2010	28,743

You also asked which schools within the University received these funds. These funds were received by the schools of Biomedical Sciences, Clinical Sciences, Population Health Sciences and Veterinary Studies.

#### **Funding for research and teaching posts (question 6)**

You asked how many research and teaching positions at the University were partly or wholly funded by government and non-government organisations or nationals in the Middle Eastern countries. You also asked which schools these posts were based in.

The University does not routinely record the nationality of individual research funders or whether overseas organisations who fund research are government or non-government. Furthermore, the University does not record whether funding is used for teaching positions. However, it is very unlikely that research funds would be used for this purpose.

The table below provides the number of funded research posts broken down by school, year and country.

**Table 3: Funded research posts by country, year and school**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Number of posts</b>
Qatar	2013	Population Health Studies	2
	2014	Population Health Studies	2
United Arab Emirates	2003	Veterinary Studies	1
	2004	Veterinary Studies	1

	2005	Veterinary Studies	1
	2010	Veterinary Studies	1

### **Rejected offers (question 7)**

You asked how many offers of donation have been rejected by the University. The University has no record of any donations being rejected.

### **Right to review**

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the University to conduct a review of this decision. To do this, please contact the University's Records Management Section in writing (including by fax, letter or email) or in some other recorded form (e.g. audio or video tape), describe the original request, explain your grounds for dissatisfaction, and include an address for correspondence. You have 40 working days from receipt of this letter to submit a review request. When the review process has been completed, if you are still dissatisfied, you may ask the Scottish Information Commissioner to intervene.

Yours sincerely

**Ann-Marie Noble**  
Deputy Records Manager

**If you require this letter in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact the Records Management Section on 0131 651 4099 or email [recordsmanagement@ed.ac.uk](mailto:recordsmanagement@ed.ac.uk)**