

Kris Wong

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

(Via: [whatdotheyknow.com](http://whatdotheyknow.com))

7 November 2016

Dear Mr Wong,

**RE: Your 12 Requests received between 22 and 29 October 2016**

**Reference: 2016-173/174/175/176/177/181/183/184/185/189/190/191**

We write further to your 12 freedom of information requests (5 dated 23 October, 1 dated 24 October, 3 dated 25 October and 3 dated 29 October 2016).

Your requests include asking for information regarding IT expenditure, BAME representation, management expenses, senior salaries, absentee, turnover, disciplinary, network downtime, the Nolan principles, personal relationships, the Chair of the Board of Governors, payments to consultants and Equal Pay.

We have decided that your requests are vexatious and in accordance with section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 the University is not obliged to comply with your request. In reaching this decision we have had particular regard to the Information Commissioner's Office guidance [‘Dealing with vexatious requests \(section 14\)’](#) (‘the guidance’).

The reasons we have concluded that your request is vexatious (and applying the guidance) is that for whatever reason, a number of your requests inappropriately target particular employees and individuals. Further given the number of requests and the level of detail this would require staff to be diverted from core functions for a considerable period of time and would impose a significant burden on the University.

Notwithstanding that we are not obliged to provide any information in response to your requests having determined them as vexatious, from a preliminary review of the requests we would also provide the following comments:

- Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act we would not be not obliged to comply with a request when it is estimated the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. Your 12 requests comprise 33 separate questions including the requirement to review several years' worth of records in some instances to determine what information, if any, is held to answer your requests. To complete this is estimated to exceed 18 hours during which time staff would be diverted from carrying out their other duties and responsibilities.
- Some of the information you have requested would be exempt under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 because it is Personal Information and we would not be able to release this without breaching the Data Protection Act 1998.

- Other information you have requested would have been exempt under section 21 of the Freedom of information Act 2000 as it is reasonably accessible to you via our website. Relevant links to where information is reasonably accessible to you includes the following:
  - Information on Governance of the University, including regarding the Nolan principles is available at: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/governance-of-the-university>
  - Information on the Board of Governors is available at: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/governance-of-the-university> including a register of interests.
  - The Report of the Board of Governors and Audited Accounts can be download at: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/corporate-publications>. This includes information on the remuneration of Governors, Senior Staff Remuneration, internal controls and other matters.
  - Information on and the Ethical Principles and Practice Policy Statement is available at: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/policies-and-procedures/ethical-principles-and-practice-policy>
  - Information on Equality and Diversity, Equal pay and including the Equality and Diversity Annual Report and the Equal Opportunities Policy Statement is available at: <http://www.bcu.ac.uk/about-us/corporate-information/equality-and-diversity>

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your requests, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be made to the Information Governance Manager at [FreedomOfInformation@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:FreedomOfInformation@bcu.ac.uk) or by writing to: Information Governance Manager, Birmingham City University, 15 Bartholomew Row, Birmingham, B5 5JU.

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. Please see <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/getting/> for details of their procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

**The Information Management Team**

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