



University of East Anglia

Information Services Directorate

The Library
University of East Anglia
Norwich Research Park
Norwich NR4 7TJ
United Kingdom

Email: foi@uea.ac.uk
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 59 2431
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>



30 March 2017

Dear 

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_17-071)

We have now considered your request of 14 March 2017 for information relating to funding received by the University from the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, Russia and China.

Our response is on page three of this letter, together with a copy of your request, and in the accompanying Excel spreadsheet, 'FOI_17-071 Appendix A'.

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide all the requested information. The Act contains a number of exemptions that allow public authorities to withhold certain information from release. We have applied the following exemption to part of your request.

Exemption	Reason
s.40(2), Personal information	Disclosure of information would contravene one of the data protection principles

This exemption applies to the names of any individual donors. Our reasons for withholding this information are as follows.

When a request is made under FOIA for information that includes personal data we are required to consider whether disclosing those data would breach the data protection principles contained within the DPA.

In considering a disclosure under FOIA, the University must also take into account that any information released under the Act will be placed in the public domain, through our own disclosure log or by other means.

We believe that disclosure of the requested information would breach the first data protection principle under the DPA; namely that information must be fairly and lawfully processed, and that the processing also meets one of the conditions set out in Schedule 2 of that Act (and in the case of sensitive personal data, a condition in Schedule 3).

We have followed the Information Commissioner's guidance¹ in assessing whether it is fair to disclose this information under FOIA. This involves considering the nature of the information, the expectations of and potential harm (of disclosure) to the data subjects, and how any legitimate public interest in this information is balanced against the rights and freedoms of the data subjects.

We note that the names of the donor(s) have not been made publicly available. While there was no specific request for anonymity, we believe the donor(s) would not have had a reasonable expectation that this information would be made public, now or when the donations were made. We do not think there is a legitimate interest in disclosing this information to the public, and have therefore concluded that disclosure of this information would not be fair.

The Information Commissioner's guidance (see footnote 1) notes that if a public authority has determined disclosure would not be fair then it must not release the information under FOIA. In such circumstances, there is no need to consider the conditions in Schedule 2 or 3 of DPA.

This is an absolute exemption and the University is not required to consider the public interest in the release of this data.

We hope this response will meet your requirements, however if you are not satisfied you have the right of appeal. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal within 60 calendar days of the date of this letter. Any appeal received after that date will not be considered nor acknowledged. This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Information Commissioner's Office.

You also have a subsequent right of appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information is available on their website:

https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us, or by telephone on 0303 123 1113.

Please note that any material over which UEA has copyright is released on the understanding that you will comply with all relevant copyright rules regarding reproduction and/or transmission of the information provided.

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

Yours sincerely

Ellen Paterson
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

¹ <https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1213/personal-information-section-40-and-regulation-13-foia-and-eir-guidance.pdf>

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_17-071)

All the questions in the Freedom of Information request below relate to the period 1 January 2012 – 1 January 2017.

My queries relate to all sources of funding either by donation or research grants from nationals, non-governmental or governmental organisations based in the following countries: United Arab Emirates; Saudi Arabia; Qatar; Oman, Russia and China.

For each question, please supply me with a breakdown for each country, year by year, with the respective names of nationals, non-governmental or governmental organisations.

1) What is the total amount of donations made by nationals of the above list of countries?

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>China</i>	£0.00	£50.00*	£0.00	£0.00	£10,000.00*

*** [Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]**

For the reasons explained in the above letter, we are unable to provide the name(s) of the Chinese national(s) who made the donations included in this table.

No donations were received by nationals of any of the other named countries within this date range.

2) What is the total amount of donations made by non-governmental organisations of the above list of countries?

£0. No donations were received by non-governmental organisations of any of the named countries within this date range.

3) What is the total amount of donations made by governmental organisations of the above list of countries?

£0. No donations were received by governmental organisations of any of the named countries within this date range.

4) What is the total amount of donations made to courses (undergraduate, postgraduate and graduate) by respective governmental, non-governmental or nationals of the above list of countries?

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>China</i>	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£10,000.00*

*** [Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]**

A Chinese national made this donation. Their name has been withheld for the reasons explained in the above letter.

No other nationals, governmental or non-governmental organisations from any of the other named countries donated to courses in this date range.

5) What is the total amount of funds received for conducting research by respective governmental, non-governmental or nationals and for what subject area, department, school, course, grant or scholarship?

See accompanying spreadsheet, 'FOI_17-071 Appendix A'.

6) How many research and teaching positions are funded, in part or solely by respective governmental, non-governmental or nationals of the above list of countries? What is the breakdown in terms of department, subject area, and school?

See accompanying spreadsheet, 'FOI_17-071 Appendix A'.

7) Was there any other stated purpose of each of the donations made by respective governmental, non-governmental or nationals of the above list?

With regard to our response to question four, the donation was made towards the Graham Everest Memorial Undergraduate Prize in the School of Mathematics.

The £50 donation listed in response to question one was made towards the redevelopment of the Law School building.

8) How many offers of donation made by respective governmental, non-governmental or nationals of the above list have been rejected?

None.