



University of East Anglia

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[Redacted]

27 June 2017

Dear [Redacted]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_17-137)

We have now considered your request of 01 June 2017 for information relating to non-compliance by UEA with its obligations regarding Tier 4 visa students.

Our response is within the attached document entitled FOI_17-137 Appendix A, and on pages 3-4 of this letter, together with a copy of your request.

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.21(1), Information reasonably accessible to applicant by other means | Policy information can be obtained from the Home Office website |

We have established some of the requested information is reasonably accessible by other means and so has been exempted under section 21(1) of the Act. The section 21 exemption confirms there is no right of access under the Act to information that is held by a public authority, if that information is reasonably available to the applicant by another route. We have indicated where s.21(1) applies in our response below, and have suggested a route of access to that information.

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 information 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

Dave Palmer
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI_17-137)

I desire to know the following information about University of East Anglia's international student population...

1. In the last 10 (ten) years, how many times has the Home Office deemed University of East Anglia non-compliant with the requirements of being a Tier 4 (General) and/or Tier 4 (Child) sponsor?

Zero (0). In the last ten years, the Home Office has not once deemed UEA non-compliant with the requirements of being a Tier 4 General and/or Child sponsor.

a. Of these incidents of non-compliance, how many times has your institution been deemed non-compliant for infractions relating to students working or volunteering over the legal 20-hour weekly limit?

Not applicable – see response to question (1) above.

b. Of these incidents of non-compliance, how many times has your institution been deemed non-compliant for infractions relating to students being uncontactable or absconding from their course?

Not applicable – see response to question (1) above.

2. In the last 10 (ten) years, how much has University of East Anglia been fined by the Home Office for being non-compliant with the requirements of being a Tier 4 (General) and/or Tier 4 (Child) sponsor?

£0.00. In the last 10 years, UEA has incurred no fines by the Home Office for being UEA non-compliant with the requirements of being a Tier 4 General and/or Child sponsor.

3. Per year over the last 10 (ten) years, how much has University of East Anglia been fined by the Home Office for being non-compliant with the requirements of being a Tier 4 (General) and/or Tier 4 (Child) sponsor? This will cover each year between 1st June 2007 the 1st June 2017.

Not applicable – see response to question 2 above.

4. Finally, please can you also provide a copy of any policies employed by University of East Anglia regarding the process of monitoring Tier 4 visa students?

The procedures relating to general attendance monitoring are within the attached document entitled FOI_17-137 Appendix A.

[Information exempted pursuant to s.21(1), Freedom of Information Act]

In relation to Tier 4 students, UEA uses the following document as its policy: Tier 4 of the Points Based System: Guidance for Sponsors: Document 2: Sponsorship Duties. London: Home Office, 2017.

(See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsor-a-tier-4-student-guidance-for-educators>)

Our procedures relating to Tier 4 students are aligned and updated in accordance with the above-noted document.