



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](mailto:foi@uea.ac.uk)  
Tel: +44 (0) 1603 593 523  
Fax: +44 (0) 1603 591 010  
Web: <http://www.uea.ac.uk>

[Redacted]

15 September 2017

Dear [Redacted]

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI\_17-205)**

We have now considered your request of 15 August 2017 for information relating to UEA property. Please accept our apologies for the delay in sending our response to you.

Our response is on page 2 of this letter, together with a copy of your request, and within the attached document 'FOI\_17-205 Appendix A'.

On this occasion, it is not possible to provide all the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm that the University does not hold information on the amount of council tax paid by the Vice-Chancellor for his residence, Wood Hall.

Additionally, 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.31(1)(a), Law enforcement	Some of the requested information would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime

*Exemption explanation*

Disclosure of information under the Act can be considered as a release to the world at large and not merely to the individual requester. We believe that the disclosure of detailed floor plans of Wood Hall would undermine the security of the building by making public details of access routes in and around the building that might facilitate criminal damage to the structure or contents and so prejudice the prevention of crime. The University does not normally allow the issue of detailed drawings of its properties for these security reasons.

Application of the above exception requires us to consider whether the public interest in withholding the requested information outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Although we acknowledge that there is a general public interest in 'grace and favour' buildings such as Wood Hall, we note that information relating to this building is

already publicly available from a variety of sources such as the [Norfolk Heritage Explorer](#)<sup>1</sup>. As such, we do not believe that the public interest in releasing additional detailed information outweighs the public interest in maintaining the security of Wood Hall.

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](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

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk/>

## Response to Freedom of Information Act 2000 request (FOI\_17-205)

*1. Are any of the university's senior staff (including the Vice-Chancellor, principal, or equivalent) provided with a 'grace-and-favour' home, i.e. a place of residence which is made available or paid for by the university for the senior staff member's use free of charge or at a discounted rate?*

Yes. The Vice-Chancellor of UEA is resident at Wood Hall, a property owned by UEA.

*2. Please list the names and positions of all senior staff provided with such a residence, and if the member of staff contributes towards the cost, the amount of that contribution.*

David Richardson, Vice-Chancellor resides at Wood Hall. Council Tax for Wood Hall is fully paid by the Vice-Chancellor.

***[Information not held - s.1(1)(a), Freedom of Information Act]***

UEA does not hold information on the Council Tax paid by the Vice-Chancellor

*3. Please give the address, or as precise a location as possible, for each residence.*

Wood Hall, Hethersett, Norwich, NR9 3DE.

*4. For each such residence, please give any valuations the university has on record for the property. This could include the purchase price, the book value, or an open market valuation.*

The terms of the covenant granting Wood Hall to UEA effectively removes the property from any actual sale market. However, the Wood Hall site, building and immediate environs had a notional market value of £1,770,000.00 at the time the last evaluation was conducted in 2014.

*5. If the property is not owned but rented out by the university on behalf of their staff, please give the monthly and annual rental cost.*

Not applicable as Wood Hall is owned by the University.

*6. Please tell me the amount of money which has been spent by the university on the refurbishment of each such property in each of the years 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17 year to date).*

The amount spent on Wood Hall by the University is presented in the table below:

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Expenditure	16,910.39	44,598.61	171,885.79	9,506.10

*7. For each property, please provide any descriptive information the university may have on record, such as the number of bedrooms, the total floor area, the age of the property or photographs and the amount of people living in each property.*

The descriptive information requested for Wood Hall is as follows:

Built: circa 1650

Total floor area: 719m<sup>2</sup>

Number of bedrooms: 5/6

Occupancy: two individuals

***[Information exempted pursuant to s.31(1)(a), Freedom of Information Act]***

Some information is exempted from release for the reasons noted in the above letter.