

██████████  
  
04 December 2014

Dear ██████████

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI\_14-243)**

Thank you for your request of 28 November 2014 for the following information:

*Please email me this [UKIP] petition and let me know:-*

- 1. How many signatures it attracted*
- 2. The breakdown of gender, ethnicity and nationality of those signing it.*
- 3. Did a lecturer condone the petition?*

*Who reversed the decision to prevent the UKIP speaker from giving a lecture.*

We regret that on this occasion it is not possible to provide 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 any of the information requested.

The petition(s) and the proposed event itself were planned and managed by UEA students, with involvement of the Union of UEA Students. The two relevant petitions were set up using a third party petition platform.<sup>1</sup> The Union is a separate body from the University and is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Because this matter does not relate to University business we also confirm that if any of the requested information is held by our students, the University would have neither control over nor interest in that information. We hold no record of UEA lecturers condoning this petition, but if they, or any member of staff, had expressed an opinion on this matter we would consider this to be representing their personally-held views, rather than an action taken on behalf of the University. Further information on when information is held for the purposes of the Act can be found on the Information Commissioner's website.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.change.org/p/university-of-east-anglia-cancel-ukip-event-at-uea-campus?recruiter=28400673&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_campaign=autopublish&utm\\_term=des-md-share\\_petition-reason\\_msg](https://www.change.org/p/university-of-east-anglia-cancel-ukip-event-at-uea-campus?recruiter=28400673&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_term=des-md-share_petition-reason_msg) &

<https://www.change.org/p/uea-students-allow-the-ukip-discussion-event-to-take-place>  
<sup>2</sup>[https://ico.org.uk/for\\_organisations/guidance\\_index/~/\\_/media/documents/library/Freedom\\_of\\_Information/Detailed\\_specialist\\_guides/information\\_held\\_by\\_a\\_public\\_authority\\_for\\_purposes\\_of\\_foia.ashx](https://ico.org.uk/for_organisations/guidance_index/~/_/media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/information_held_by_a_public_authority_for_purposes_of_foia.ashx)

You have the right of appeal against this decision. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your reasons for appealing and send to the above address. You must appeal our decision 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 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