

[REDACTED]

27 March 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Information request (ref: FOI_15-063)

We have considered your request of 24 March 2015 for

“...all email correspondence sent out or received between the 17th March 2015 and the 19th March 2015 by every member of your senior management team which contains any of the following words:

- *Orchid*
- *Kigali*
- *China Ocean Shipping Company (COSCO)*
- *Artemis*
- *Contagion*”

We have, however, determined that your request is vexatious and in accordance with section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we will not be processing your request. In accordance with section 17(5) of the FOIA this letter acts as a Refusal Notice, and I am not obliged to supply this information.

The reason that we have concluded that your request is vexatious is that it appears to have little discernible value and purpose. The request appears, in our opinion, to be frivolous with little, or no, serious purpose.

Our view is reinforced by the knowledge that a similar request using different terms, but with the same pattern and number of elements (Flower – City/town name - Shipping company – Greek god – Medical terms) has been sent to a large number of other institutions. Guidance from Information Commissioner’s Office¹ indicates that we may take into account evidence from other authorities when considering the overall context and history of the request for the purposes of determining if the request is vexatious.

There is little wider benefit of the requested information to the public. Nor, in our view, would a reasonable person think that the purpose and value of the request are enough to justify the impact on this organisation.

¹ Dealing with vexatious requests (section 14): Freedom of Information Act. Wilmslow: ICO, 2014. (<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf>)

You have the right of appeal against the decision. If you wish to appeal, please set out in writing your grounds of appeal and send to me at the address noted above.

You must appeal our response 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 whose [contact details](#)² can be found on their website.

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

Yours sincerely

David Palmer
Information Policy and Compliance Manager
University of East Anglia

² https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us