



Mr Graham Stringer MP House of Commons London SW1A 0AA Brian Summers BSc Registrar & Secretary

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19 April 2012

Dear Mr. Stringer

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST (Our Ref: FOI\_11-172, ICO Case Ref No. FS50425727)

The Information Commissioner's Office has been in contact with the University regarding your complaint under section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 about our handling of your request for information of 19 July 2011.

In our original response of 30 August 2011, we elected to withhold some of the requested information; specifically "how much was paid to Outside Organisation for their services". The exemptions which applied were s.41(1) Information provided in confidence, and s.43(2) Prejudice to commercial interests.

The application of these exemptions was upheld on appeal following an internal review of the request.

The Information Commissioner has now undertaken his initial review of this case having received *inter alia* the representations from the legal advisers of the Outside Organisation as to the validity of the application of these exemptions, and the prospect of legal action against the University if the information is released. The Information Commissioner has advised us that, in his view, and in the absence of further arguments, he is likely to find against the University in this case. He has asked that we release the withheld information.

In the circumstances we are pleased to be able to release the following information:

• £112,810.71 was paid to the Outside Organisation for their services

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Website: www.ico.gov.uk

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

Yours sincerely

Brian Summers

Registrar & Secretary