

**FOI 24 -279 Trips to China**

2 messages

Foi &lt;foi@abdn.ac.uk&gt;

26 September 2024 at 16:32

To: "info@ukctransparency.org" &lt;info@ukctransparency.org&gt;

Dear Sam

Your request has now been considered under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, 'the Act'. Please find your response below.

**- The number of visits to China in the last 18 months by the Vice-Chancellor (or equivalent), any pro-VC (or equivalent), dean international (or equivalent), or any other executive-level staff (not academic or research staff).**

There were 6 trips taken in the last 18 months, by 3 members of the University Senior Management Team.

**- Please, for each visit, state the role of the staff member(s) who went, and a list of meetings/itinerary.**

While role of the staff member is held in terms of Section 16 of the Act, we are withholding their roles, as they are unique post titles and can be linked to an individual. On this basis, we are withholding the information under Section 38 (1)(b) – Personal Information. To disclose this information would be an intrusion into the rights and freedoms of the individuals, would be unfair and therefore breach the first principle of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

We only have the itinerary of one member of staff trip available, which you will find below. For the other members of staff, they have since left the employ of the University and we are unable to locate any itinerary (if recorded) for these trips. We are advising in line with Section 17 of the Act – Information Not Held, that we do not hold the information for 6 of the recorded trips.

Details of trip:

- Visit to Shandong Normal University School of Economics
- Opening ceremony and student welcome. Joint Institute South China Normal University
- Open day and welcome, Shandong Normal University
- Visits to Wuhan University and China University of Geosciences
- International Joint Institute conference, South China Normal University

Should you be dissatisfied with this response, you have the right under the Act to request a review. A request for review must be made within 40 working days of the date of this reply. It must include your name and address for correspondence and specify the request for information and the grounds for dissatisfaction with the decision. Please send your request for review to our mailbox, [foi@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:foi@abdn.ac.uk). The University will respond to your request for a review within 20 working days of receipt of your request.

If you are unhappy with the outcome of the University's internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner within six months of the date of receipt of the University's review notice. Details on how to make an appeal to the Commissioner are available at [Appeal to the Commissioner | Scottish Information Commissioner \(foi.scot\)](#) Should you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's decision, you have a right of appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

Kind Regards



Information Governance Officer

University of Aberdeen

[www.abdn.ac.uk](http://www.abdn.ac.uk)

**4<sup>th</sup> in the UK** for Overall Student Satisfaction (NSS 2022)

**13<sup>th</sup> in the UK** (The Guardian University Guide 2023)

**World Top 160** (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022)

**Queen's Anniversary Prize for Further and Higher Education** winner 2017 and 2021



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Tha Oilthigh Obar Dheathain na chathannas clàraichte ann an Alba, Àir. SC013683.

Sam Dunning <director@ukctransparency.org>  
To: Poppy Wood <poppy.wood@telegraph.co.uk>

17 October 2024 at 17:32

[Quoted text hidden]