

**Your FOI Request - China Visits**

2 messages

Freedom Of Information Requests <foi@essex.ac.uk>  
To: "info@ukctransparency.org" <info@ukctransparency.org>  
Cc: Communications Office <comms@essex.ac.uk>

9 October 2024 at 10:24

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your enquiry dated 4 September 2024, received by us on the same date, concerning China visits. Please accept our apologies for the delay in our response. Your request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please see our response below.

Your request

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- 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).

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

Our response

We have interpreted your request to relate to the University's executive leadership team, which comprises of our [University Steering Group \(USG\)](#).

There have been 3 visits to China for these staff members. In June 2023 and January 2024 our Vice-Chancellor visited China and in August 2023 the Executive Dean of Science and Health visited China. Please see the attached PDF document.

Please note that this document has been redacted as this information is considered to be personal information of those to whom they relate and disclosing this information would breach one of the data protection principles in the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore refusing to provide this information under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This exemption covers the personal data of third parties where complying with the request would breach any of the principles in the Data Protection Act and provides that:

*(2) any information to which a request for information relates is also exempt information if-*

*(a) it constitutes personal data which do not fall under subsection (1) and*

*(b) either the first or the second condition below is satisfied.*

*(3A) The first condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act-*

*(a) would contravene any of the data protection principles, or*

*(b) would do so if the exemptions in section 24(1) of the Data Protection Act 2018 (manual unstructured data held by public authorities) were disregarded.*

*(3B) The second condition is that the disclosure of the information to a member of the public otherwise than under this Act would contravene Article 21 of the GDPR (general processing: right to object to processing)*

In this case we believe that disclosure of the information would result in a breach of the first data protection principle, as stated in the Data Protection Act 2018 (the DPA):

*"Personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully and, in particular, shall not be processed unless-*

*(a) at least one of the conditions in Schedule 2 is met, and*


*(b) in the case of sensitive personal data, at least one of the conditions in Schedule 3 is also met"*

The information that you have requested is personal data, therefore, for the processing to be fair and lawful it must meet at least one of the conditions of Schedule 2 and one of the conditions of Schedule 3 of the DPA. In this case we do not believe that any of the Schedule 2 conditions are applicable to the processing (i.e. the disclosure) of the personal data in question, which leads us to conclude that it would be unlawful to disclose the information requested.

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test. Further guidance can be found on the Information Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/your-data-matters/official-information/>.

I hope you find this information useful but if you have any questions about the data, please let me know. You would also be welcome to contact our Comms Team on 01206 872400 and I have copied them into this email so that they are aware of your interest. Should you feel dissatisfied with this response or the way in which your request has been handled you can request an Internal Review. This should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this email and should be addressed to the Registrar & Secretary, Mr Bryn Morris, through [registrar@essex.ac.uk](mailto:registrar@essex.ac.uk). If you remain dissatisfied following the outcome of your complaint you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for consideration (see <https://ico.org.uk>).

Regards,

  
Information Assurance Assistant

Freedom of Information Team

Office of the Vice-Chancellor

University of Essex

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 **UoE - FOI Request - China Visits.pdf**  
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**Sam Dunning** <director@ukctransparency.org>  
To: Poppy Wood <poppy.wood@telegraph.co.uk>

17 October 2024 at 16:49

[Quoted text hidden]

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日期 DATE	时间 TIME	活动 SCHEDULE	参加人员 PARTICIPANT	备注 NOTES
25 AUG.	14:35	接机 Pick up from the airport	[REDACTED]	Prepare Pick-up Board
28 AUG.	9:00-11:30	欢迎, 首个合作办学项目进展及第二个合作办学项目沟通 Welcome meetig, Communication of key contents for the first and the second joint programme	[REDACTED]	Group Photo
	12:00	午餐 (新食堂四层) Welcome Lunch	[REDACTED]	whether vegetarians or have any food allergies
	13:30	参观南校区校园 Uni tour (Chang'an campus)	[REDACTED]	class rooms and labs for joint programme students
	14:30-17:00	合作办学项目细节沟通 Communication of the details of the joint programmes	[REDACTED]	
29 AUG.	10:00	西北大学博物馆参观, 太白校区参观 Visit of the Museum of NWU, Uni tour (Taibai campus)	[REDACTED]	
	12:00	午餐 (食堂) Lunch	[REDACTED]	
	14:30	学术报告 Academic Report 大三学生欢迎活动 Returning student orientation events	[REDACTED]	NWU need prepare Poster in advance The titile and abstract of academic reports and Personal Profile of the Reporters
30 AUG.	14:30	新生见面会 Orientation	[REDACTED]	PPT providing in advance if have
	16:45	大二学生欢迎活动 Returning student orientation events	[REDACTED]	

[REDACTED] arrival at Xinayang International Airport, Xi'an, Terminal 3 on Friday 25 August 2023 at 14.35

## Schedule - AIV China, June 2023 (as at 30May23)

### Saturday 03 June

<b>Anthony Forster</b>	
Location	UK-FLY
Morning	Transfer to LHR T5 by University driver Pick-up time: 0945 AF
Afternoon	1505: FLY
Evening	FLY

### Sunday 04 June

<b>Anthony Forster</b>	
Location	Fly - BEIJING
Morning	0935 approx. – Arrive Beijing
Afternoon	Free
Evening	Dinner with CHINA RIO team

### Monday 05 June

<b>Anthony Forster</b>	
Location	BEIJING
Morning	University of Science & Technology Beijing 09:30 – 11:00 meeting 11:00 – 12:30 lunch at USTB
Afternoon	1400-1500 British Council 1600-1700 China Scholarship Council
Evening	Dinner meeting with [REDACTED] Grok Beijing (with BS).

### Tuesday 06 June

<b>Anthony Forster</b>	
Location	Beijing-XI'AN
Morning	CSCSE China Service Centre for Scholarly Exchange (incl. lunch)
Afternoon	Transfer to Airport Fly to Xi'an
Evening	1825 approx. arrive Xi'an, transfer to hotel (Crowne Plaza)

### Wednesday 07 June

<b>Anthony Forster</b>	
Location	Xi'an – HONG KONG
Morning	Northwest University 10:30 – 11:30 meeting 12:00 – 14:00 Opening ceremony for Essex open day and lunch
Afternoon	Transfer to Xian Airport 1705 – fly to Shenzhen
Evening	1955 approx. arrive Shenzhen Transfer by car to Hong Kong hotel (Eaton Hotel)

### Thursday 08 June

	<b>Anthony Forster</b>
Location	HONG KONG
Morning	Free – rest and homework
Afternoon	1300 Lunch with [REDACTED] 1600 YUFE Meeting - online
Evening	Alumni reception, Eaton Hotel

### Friday 09 June

	<b>Anthony Forster</b>
Location	Hong Kong - FLY
Morning	Free
Afternoon	1245 lunch with [REDACTED]
Evening	Transfer to airport 2310 – Fly to UK

### Saturday 10 June

	<b>Anthony Forster</b>
Location	Fly-COLCHSTER
Morning	approx. 0640, Arrive LHR Transfer to Colchester by University driver

UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX HONG KONG SCHEDULE

Monday 15 January – Friday 19 January 2024

Day	Time	Action	Details
Sat 13 Jan	17.40	Flight departure from UK to Xi'an for AF	Heathrow Arr Beijing 11.55
Sun 14 Jan	14.35	Flight departure AF from Beijing to Xi'an	Beijing– Arr Xi'an Int Airport 16.55 Hotel – JW Marriott Hotel Xi'an Southwest (Sun 14 – Tue 16 Jan) [REDACTED] to meet you at arrivals
Monday 15 January		AM – NWU PM – XISU -	XISU – 14.30 - 16.00 - Room A310, Administrative Building
Tuesday 16 January		Meet with [REDACTED] Division of International Exchange and Co-operation of Xi'dian	Hotel Lounge Meeting room
Tuesday 16 January		Flight from Xi'an to Hong Kong departure	Departs 15.50 Terminal 1
Tuesday 16 January	18.45 19.05	Anthony arrives from Xian	Pullman Park Lane, Causeway Bay

Wednesday 17 January	AM	██████	TBC, Central Hong Kong
	12.45pm	██████████ – Donor stewardship meeting	Jackson Room - Hong Kong Club
	Afternoon	Keep clear for event preparation	
	7.00pm – 10.00pm	Alumni event and launch of the Hong Kong Student Fund	Soho House, 33 Des Voeux Rd W, Sheung Wan
Thursday 18 January	8am	██████████	Pullman Park Lane
	10.00am	██████████	Pullman Park Lane
	Lunch	AF ██████	
	3.00pm	Prospect meeting - ████████████████████	Pullman Park Lane – need to confirm where in hotel to meet
	7pm	██████████ donor stewardship meeting	Madame Fu-Grand Cafe Chinois, 10 Hollywood Road, Shop 03-3/F, Block 033/F, Barrack Block, Tai Kwun
Friday 19 February	13.30	Flight from Hong Kong	Terminal 1
	20.10	Land in UK	Terminal 3