

FOI request re China visits
2 messages

info@ukctransparency.org <info@ukctransparency.org>
To: foi@hw.ac.uk

4 September 2024 at 15:58

Hi there,

My name is Sam Dunning. Please provide:

- 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 staffmember(s) who went, and a list of meetings/itinerary.

Best,

Sam

--
Sam Dunning
Director
UK-China Transparency
www.ukctransparency.org
(Charity number 1201902)



Freedom of Information <FOI@hw.ac.uk>
To: "info@ukctransparency.org" <info@ukctransparency.org>

2 October 2024 at 16:10

Dear Sam

Thank you for your information request dated the 4th of September regarding visits to China in the last 18 months by executive staff. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA).

You have requested information on the number of visits to China in the last 18 months by executive staff and for each visit you have requested the role of the staff member(s) who attended, and a list of meetings/itinerary. Please see the below table which covers 1st March 2023 to 31st August 2024.

As you will appreciate partnership discussions are still in place with a number of institutions visited on these trips and we believe this information to be commercially sensitive at this moment in time. We have therefore withheld the names of these institutions and are applying an exemption for disclosure under FOISA Section 33 (1) (b) as disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the commercial interests of the University or third parties. We also consider that this information is currently exempt from disclosure as releasing it would substantially prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs under FOISA Section 30 (c)

We have carefully considered the need for transparency and the public interest in releasing this information, however we have concluded that this is outweighed by the University's ability to operate in a competitive market and to maintain the confidentiality of its current internal planning and deliberation while they are in process

Dates of Senior HWU Delegations to China	Senior Staff Attending (members of University Executive/ Global Operations Executive)	Institutions Visited	Date	Itinerary
Sep-23	Principal & Vice-Chancellor	Tianjin University of Finance & Economics (TUFÉ)	18th Sep	AM Depart from Hotel AM Meeting with TUFÉ PM Working Lunch
		Tianjin University of Science and Technology (TUST)	18th Sep	PM Depart for TUST PM Meeting with TUST PM Dinner Hosted by TUST
	Global Chief Operating Officer			
		Tianjin University of Commerce (TUC)	19th Sep	AM Meeting with TUC
		Ocean University	20th Sep	AM Meeting with OUC

	Executive Dean, School of Engineering & Physical Sciences	(OUC)		PM lunch hosted by the Principal of OUC PM Opening ceremony for Year 1 Joint Education Programme (JEP) students
	Executive Dean, School of Mathematics and Computer Sciences	Xidian University	21st Sep	AM Meeting with Xidian University and working lunch
		<i>Name withheld</i>		AM Meeting
		Guangdong University of Technology (GDUT)	22nd Sep	AM Meeting with GDUT Campus Tour Working Lunch hosted by GDUT
Mar-24	Executive Dean, School of Engineering and Physical Sciences	Ocean University (OUC)	25th Mar	All Day Meeting with OUC
		Xidian University	28th Mar	AM Meeting with Xidian University
May-24	Executive Dean, School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society	<i>Name withheld</i>	21st May	AM Meeting
		<i>Name withheld</i>		PM Meeting
		Name withheld	22nd May	PM Meeting
		<i>Name withheld</i>	23rd May	PM Meeting
		<i>Name withheld</i>	24th May	All Day Meeting
		<i>Name withheld</i>	25th May	PM Meeting

		<i>Name withheld</i>	26th May	AM Meeting
		<i>Name withheld</i>	27th May	AM Meeting
		Chang'an University (CHU)		PM Meeting with CHU
		Hunan University	29th May	AM Meeting with Hunan University

We hope you will find this helpful.

Your right to seek review of our decision

If you are not satisfied with our response or our reasoning set-out above, you have forty working days from today in which to request a review of our decision. Any request should be put in writing and should be sent to Ann Jones, Head of Information Governance, at the address detailed at the bottom of this email. The request should:

(a) detail your request for a review of our decision to be undertaken;

(b) describe the nature of your original request; and

(c) explain the reasons why you are dissatisfied with our response.

If you remain dissatisfied with how your request for information has been dealt with, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether we have handled your request properly.

Information relating to your right to seek review is available from the [Scottish Information Commissioner's web page](#) or by contacting the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office at the following address:

Scottish Information Commissioner,

Kinburn Castle,

Doubledykes Road, St Andrews,

Fife KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610

E-mail: enquires@foi.scot

Website: <https://www.foi.scot/about-us>

Contact us

Finally, should you wish to discuss the contents of this email, please do not hesitate to contact us via foi@hw.ac.uk

FOISA Team

Information Governance Division

Heriot-Watt University

Edinburgh EH14 4AS

From: info@ukctransparency.org <info@ukctransparency.org>

Sent: 04 September 2024 15:58

To: Freedom of Information <FOI@hw.ac.uk>

Subject: FOI request re China visits

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