

Dear Sam,

With reference to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act, please find below the School's response.

- 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).

3 in total.

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

Trip 1 – Vice President and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education); Chief Philanthropy and Global Engagement Officer

Trip 2 – Vice President and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research)

Trip 3 – President and Vice Chancellor; Chief Philanthropy and Global Engagement Officer

We cannot provide any further detail as this is exempt from release under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act. We have used this exemption because the trips were for fundraising and partnership building discussions and competitors could use this information to target those sources meaning that LSE would miss out on potential donations and business opportunities. This is a public interest test exemption and in applying the test, we understand that UK relations with China are of high public interest. However, the School does have to maximise income from donations and partnerships to ensure we can continue our core missions of research and teaching. In supplying the general categories of what was discussed on the trips, we believe the public interest has been served in understanding why School personnel visited China while still allowing the School to maximise potential income.

If you think that the information provided does not meet your request, contact me on this email address or write to Louise Nadal, School Secretary, London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE. We will then review the response to your request and get back to you within 20 working days. You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Office <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>, though they expect the internal review to be carried out before receiving a complaint directly.

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