THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

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8 August 2023

File ref: FOI2023/00493

Millie Sullivan

Sent by email: millie@ded1.co

Dear Millie Sullivan

Freedom of Information request: FOI2023/00493

Thank you for your email of 11 July 2023 requesting information about academic partnership policies or statements.

The University of Edinburgh is a global university, rooted in Scotland. We are internationally recognised for our research, development and innovation and we have provided world-class teaching to our students for more than 430 years. We are the largest university in Scotland and in 2021/22 our annual revenue was £1.3 billion, of which £331 million was research income. We have just under 50,000 students and over 15,000 staff. We are a founding member of the UK's Russell Group of leading research universities and a member of the League of European Research Universities.

Income due diligence

Major prospective sources of income for the University, such as donations and research funding, always undergo a rigorous due diligence process. Until the end of 2021, donations went before the Ethical Fundraising Advisory Group. The Income Due Diligence Group (IDDG) now considers and advises on whether the source and purposes of all income relating to philanthropic and contractual business, industrial and international government sources are ethically acceptable. More information on the IDDG can be found on the University's Governance and Strategic Planning website.

Academic partnership policies or statements

You asked for details of any University academic partnership policies or statements within the last five years that refer to any commitment to exclude arms trade companies. You specifically asked for the year of the policy or statement release, the name of the senior management, council or committee that wrote or signed off the statement and the name of the council or committee that oversees academic partnerships, broken down by year.

You stated academic partnerships refer to the following: graduate schemes/apprenticeships/Careers fair appearances, directly sponsored PhDs or Studentships, public donations - sponsored buildings/libraries etc., company involvement in University departments, dual employment of staff/management or lecturers, and any consultancy role.

In order to answer your request, I contacted the areas of the University most likely to hold or be aware of relevant information: the Careers Service, the Income Due Diligence Group (IDDG), Academic Services, Human Resources, Edinburgh Innovations, Edinburgh Global and the College of Science and Engineering.

None of these areas have or are aware of any policies or statements made within the last five years that refer to a commitment to exclude arms trade companies.

Right to review

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you may ask the University to conduct a review of this decision by contacting the University's Records Management Section in writing (e.g. by letter or email) or in some other recorded form (e.g. audio or video tape). You should describe the original request, explain your grounds for dissatisfaction, and include an address for correspondence. You have 40 working days from receipt of this letter to submit a review request. The contact details for the Records Management Section are at the top of this letter. When the review process has been completed, if you are still dissatisfied, you may use the Scottish Information Commissioner's guidance on making an appeal to make an appeal to the Commissioner. If you do not have access to the Internet, please let me know and I will provide a copy of the relevant web pages.

Privacy notice for information request applicants

The University of Edinburgh's request privacy notice, which describes how we use the information you have supplied about yourself and your request, is published on the University website.

Yours sincerely

Celia Jenkins
Records Management Section

If you require this letter in an alternative format, such as large print or a coloured background, please contact the Records Management Section on 0131 651 4099 or email recordsmanagement@ed.ac.uk