From: [removed] On Behalf Of Freedom of Information
Sent: 03 June 2021 11:26
To: 
Subject: Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/177)

Dear

Freedom of Information Response (Our Ref: K/21/177)

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) request dated 07 April 2021, reference K/21/177.

Your request read:

“Please answer the following questions about your investments:
(i) Is the university invested directly or indirectly, through owning shares or through pools, trackers, or through investment in funds, in one of the 112 business entities included in the United Nations Human Rights Council report into business activity in Israel’s settlements, (A/HRC/43/71)?
(ii) If yes, please provide the market value of the investment, and how the investment is made.

Further, I request that a copy of the following documents [or documents containing the following information] be provided to me in digital format:

(i) A list of companies in which the university directly holds shares.
(ii) A list of the various funds, trackers and pools in which the university invests - both the name of each fund, and the manager who deals with it on the university’s behalf?
(iii) A list of companies invested in by the funds, trackers and pools you hold funds in, and the market value of each. Understanding that shares held indirectly fluctuate frequently, simply the latest information you already have on this will be fine.
(iv) total value of the university's investment portfolio.”

The University of Leeds holds this information. Please see below and the attached documents for the relevant answers:

(i) Is the university invested directly or indirectly, through owning shares or through pools, trackers, or through investment in funds, in one of the 112 business entities included in the United Nations Human Rights Council report into business activity in Israel’s settlements, (A/HRC/43/71)? As of March 31st, the University had an equity holding in one of the 112 business entities included in the UN Human Rights Council: Alstom, at a value of £807k. Our understanding, however, is that Alstom is no longer involved in the contract that runs the Jerusalem Light Railway.
(ii) If yes, please provide the market value of the investment, and how the investment is made. As above.

Further, I request that a copy of the following documents [or documents containing the following information] be provided to me in digital format:

(i) A list of companies in which the university directly holds shares. See attachment ‘Annex A.’

(ii) A list of the various funds, trackers and pools in which the university invests - both the name of each fund, and the manager who deals with it on the university’s behalf? See attachment ‘Annex B.’ The manager who deals with it on the university’s behalf is Oliver Bates of Sarasin & Partners.

(iii) A list of companies invested in by the funds, trackers and pools you hold funds in, and the market value of each. Understanding that shares held indirectly fluctuate frequently, simply the latest information you already have on this will be fine. See attachment ‘Annex B.’

(iv) total value of the university’s investment portfolio.” The fund has a total value of £83,962k, which includes liquid assets not included in the attached.

Please note that we have provided our investment position as of the date of your request. The portfolio is subject to constant change.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions about this email, however, please do not hesitate to contact us on foi@leeds.ac.uk

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you can request an Internal Review. Requests for Internal Review should be made in writing using the following contact information:

Post: Mr D Wardle
Deputy Secretary
The University of Leeds
Leeds
LS2 9JT

Email: foi@leeds.ac.uk

Requests for Internal Review should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving the University’s response to your request. Further information about how the University manages Freedom of Information requests and about our complaints procedure is also available on our website (www.leeds.ac.uk).
If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review/complaints procedure provided by the University. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,