



UNIVERSITY
of HULL

Request Reference: 3451

FOI Request dated 09/07/2025 –

Context

In June, the Office for Students, which regulates English universities, issued guidance explaining how universities should interpret their responsibilities under the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023 ('HEFOSA'). The guidance, in examples 25 and 26, recommended the amendment or termination of two kinds of partnerships with Chinese entities/ the Chinese government: the China Scholarship Council scholarship programmes, and Confucius Institutes.

Because of the importance of these partnerships, this issue is likely to have attracted the attention of senior university administrators, and in responding to this request you should seek their guidance as to what material exists that might be in scope. You do not have to trawl through all university staff's emails and I will not tolerate a refusal to respond that cites the difficulty of doing so. Please ask someone senior about this.

Request

Please provide:

- All correspondence from the 1st of June 2025 to the day you deal with this FOI request, between university staff and relating to the Office for Students' [HEFOSA guidance](#) on academic freedom and partnerships with Chinese entities, including the Confucius Institute programme, and the China Scholarship Council programmes.

- All documents or reports, and all minutes of meetings at which issues relating to HEFOSA and the Confucius Institute/ China Scholarship Council programmes were discussed.

Response

No information held.