

Private & Confidential

Mr Brian Jordan

By email to: Brian Jordan president@tudublinsu.ie

11th December 2023

Dear Mr Jordan,

**Re: Request for Access to Records under Freedom of Information (FOI) - Ref: FOI 23-079 –
Decision Letter**

I refer to your request made under the FOI Act 2014 for access to records from TU Dublin which was received by the FOI Office on 9th November 2023 by email. Your request sought: -

1. *I would like to ask for a list of Israeli companies that have provided funding for research conducted in TU Dublin starting from 2018 until today, along with the amount provided and the name of the research project.*
2. *A list of partnerships that TU Dublin has with Israeli institutions, academic or otherwise.*
3. *A list of Israeli companies that provide any services to TU Dublin, or that TU Dublin has trade with, or investments in any form with.*

I would like to get this information digitally, via email.

As the Decision Maker in this case, I made a final decision on your request on 8th December 2023 . Under Section 13 of the FOI Acts, I have decided to grant you partial access to the information covered by your request.

Schedule of Records

Please see attached a detailed Schedule of Records; this shows the details of the records that were considered to fall under the scope of your request, and it details my decision in relation to each page. My decision can be to release in full, part release or withhold and this is detailed in the Schedule. Where I have decided to part release or withhold a document, I have quoted the exemption sections that I rely upon and set out under “Decision” below I detail my reasons for using those exemption sections.

Decision

In relation to points 1 and 2 of your request, the University has no records relating to such research funding or partnerships; therefore, these parts of your request are being refused on administrative grounds under Section 15(1)(a) of the Act which states that an FOI Request may be refused if the record concerned does not exist or could not be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain their whereabouts were taken.

Section 15 (1) (a) of the FOI Act 2014 states:

Seoladh Cláraithe / Registered Address
OT Baile Átha Cliath - Teach na Páirce Ghráinseach Ghormáin
191 An Cuarbhóthar Thuaidh, D07 EWW4, Éire
TU Dublin - Park House Grangegorman
191 North Circular Road, D07 EWW4, Ireland

OT Baile Átha Cliath
Teach na Páirce Ghráinseach Ghormáin
191 An Cuarbhóthar Thuaidh
D07 EWW4, Éire

TU Dublin
Park House Grangegorman
191 North Circular Road
D07 EWW4, Ireland

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~ tudublin.ie

“a head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where the record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken”.

In relation to point 3 of your request, I now wish to advise that this part of your request has been granted. Please refer to record 1 which is listed on the accompanying Schedule of Records and enclosed with this final response.

Right of Appeal

Upon receipt of this reply, if you are not content with the outcome or the decision made, you are entitled to seek an internal review under Section 21(7) of the Act. A request for an internal review should be made within four weeks of the date of this decision by writing to: *The Information Governance Manager, Technological University Dublin, Tallaght Campus, Blessington Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 FKT9* or by email to foi@tudublin.ie. An appeal will involve a complete reconsideration of the matter by a more senior member of staff within the University.

The making of a late request for internal review may be permitted in certain circumstances. If your request relates to non-personal information, you are liable for a fee of €30 (€10 for Medical Card holders) when you request an internal review. Please contact foi@tudublin.ie for details of electronic payment methods. A copy of your review rights and schedule of charges under the FOI legislation is also attached for your information.

If you are unhappy with the response you receive to your internal review request, you have a right to appeal to the Office of the Information Commissioner. This appeal must be made within 6 months of the date of the internal review decision and may be made by writing to: -

Mr. Ger Deering, Information Commissioner, 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 W773

If your request relates to non-personal information you are liable for a fee of €50 (€15 for Medical Card holders) and this fee is payable to the Office of the Information Commissioner on lodging your appeal.

Should you have any queries with respect to the above please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Office by email at foi@tudublin.ie.

Yours sincerely,



Colm Whelan
Head of Finance

Enclosures

TU Dublin – FOI Access Request

FOI 23-079

Schedule of Records

Name of Requester: Brian Jordan

Request Details:

I would appreciate if you could provide:

1. A list of Israeli companies that have provided funding for research conducted in TU Dublin starting from 2018 until today, along with the amount provided and the name of the research project.

2. A list of partnerships that TU Dublin may have with Israeli institutions, academic or otherwise.

3. A list of Israeli companies that provide any services to TU Dublin, or that TU Dublin has trade with, or investments in.

File Reference Number	Record for release number	Brief Description of Record for release	Date of Record	Number of Pages	Release Yes/No/Partial (If no/partial - state paragraph/line)	Exempt Section / Reasons for Exemption
FOI 23-079 – Parts 1 & 2		No records exist	n/a	n/a	No	Refused under Section 15 (1) (a) of the FOI Act 2014: <i>15. (1) A head to whom an FOI request is made may refuse to grant the request where – (a) The record concerned does not exist or cannot be found after all reasonable steps to ascertain its whereabouts have been taken.</i>
Part 3	1	Details of Israeli companies who provide services to TU Dublin	07/12/23	1	Yes	N/A

Decision Maker: Mr. Colm Whelan, Head of Finance

Date: 08/12/23

FOI 23-079 - Record 1

Requester: Brian Jordan

Date: 08.12.23

Request Details:

I would appreciate if you could provide:

- 1. A list of Israeli companies that have provided funding for research conducted in TU Dublin starting from 2018 until today, along with the amount provided and the name of the research project.*
- 2. A list of partnerships that TU Dublin may have with Israeli institutions, academic or otherwise.*
- 3. A list of Israeli companies that provide any services to TU Dublin, or that TU Dublin has trade with, or investments in.*

Response:

1. No such records exist.
2. No such records exist.
3. Photonicsys Ltd.

Summary of Review Rights:

Freedom of Information Act 2014 Section 27 Summary

You are entitled to a review of the Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) response to your Freedom of Information (FOI) request.

The Act gives you the right to seek a review of such decisions and actions where the University decides to:

- Refuse your FOI request or
- Exclude all or part of particular records, or
- Give access in a form other than you requested, or
- Charge a fee or deposit for access to records.

Decision on an FOI Request:

A final decision on your request will normally be sent to you within four weeks (20 working days) of its receipt. Where it is necessary to seek a charge or to consult with third parties, this deadline is extended appropriately. If you have not received a decision within the allotted time, you are automatically entitled to ask the University for an Internal Review of the matter.

Reasons for Decisions:

If you sought reasons for a decision made by the Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin), you are also entitled to an internal review of the response to that request.

Internal Review:

If you are unhappy with the decision or response to your FOI request and wish to seek a review, you can do so by writing to **Freedom of Information Officer, Information and Governance Office**, Technological University Dublin, Tallaght Campus, Blessington Road, Tallaght. Dublin 24, D24 FKT9 or by email: foi@tudublin.ie.

A charge of €30 is required **for non-personal requests** and a reduction can be made under special circumstances (see overleaf).

You should state:

- The details of your initial request and
- What decision or action you wish to have reviewed and
- The reasons why you believe the University's response has been inadequate.

You will normally have four weeks to appeal an FOI decision. The Internal Review is a full and new consideration of the matter carried out by a more senior member of staff within the University.

External Review:

Where you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review you can make a further appeal to the **Information Commissioner** by post: Office of the Information Commissioner, 6 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 W773 or by email: info@oic.ie. A charge of €50 is required **for non-personal requests** and a reduction can be made under special circumstances.

Schedule of Fees and Charges: Freedom of Information Act 2014

Section 27 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 provides for fees and charges as follows:

Type of Request or Application	Standard Fee*	Reduced Fee**
Initial request for a record under Section 12	No charge	No charge
Internal Review by TU Dublin under Section 21	€30	€10
External Review by Information Commissioner under Section 22	€50	€15
Application for amendment of a record containing incorrect, incomplete or misleading personal information under Section 9	No charge	No charge
Application for the reasons for a decision affecting the individual under Section 10	No charge	No charge

* Fee will not apply where a person appeals a decision to charge a fee or deposit, or a fee or deposit of a particular amount under Section 27 of the FOI Act.

** Reduced fee will apply in respect of persons covered by a medical card and third parties who appeal a decision of a public body to release their information on public interest grounds. Evidence of proof is required to be submitted by a medical card holder or the dependent of same who wishes to pay the reduced fees for a review under section 21 or section 22. A copy of the current medical card and written consent that the details may be verified if required must be submitted to the FOI Office.

*** No charge applies for internal/external review applications in relation to a decision concerning records containing personal information in relation to the requester, including a person belonging to a class of persons specified in regulations under Section 37(8) of the FOI Act.

Charges for search, retrieval and copying of records:

Charges may be applied for the time spent finding and retrieving records, and for any copying costs incurred in providing you with the material requested:

- If the cost of search, retrieval and copying is €100 or less, no charge is applied.
- If the charge exceeds €100, full fees apply up to €500.
- If the estimated cost of search, retrieval and copying is more than €700 the University can refuse to process your request, unless you refine your request to bring the search, retrieval and copying fees below this limit.

Type of Charge	Standard Charge
Search and retrieval of records	€20 per hour
Photocopying	4 cent per sheet
CD-ROM containing copy of documents	€10
Radiograph (X-ray) containing copy documents	€6