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Re: Code on Access to Information - Request for Review

2015/10/17 下午 06:18

From: Richard T ARMOUR/UGC/HKSARG
To: Rob Davidson <foi+request-29-32c95da7@accessinfo.hk>,
Cc: "Eva Yam" <eyam@ugc.edu.hk>, Kathy KF MA/UGC/HKSARG@UGC

Dear Mr Davidson,

Thank you for your reply, which is clear. I quite understand your position.

From our own internal review procedure guidelines I should supply you with my decision by Saturday 24 October - ten calendar days after receipt of the request for review (or explaining the reasons why that needs to be extended to a maximum of 21 days in total), I will endeavour to meet the first deadline in full. I met with officers this morning but I will need to have more discussions/questions when I return late next week - Thursday/Friday so you may not actually hear from me fully until Saturday 24th itself.

Like you I will be reading my emails overseas, so feel free to contact me.

When we get past this stage there may still be merit in arranging a meeting for better communication but lets leave that for now

Best regards,

Richard

Dr Richard T Armour JP
Secretary-General, University Grants Committee, Hong Kong
e: armour@ugc.edu.hk t: (852) 2524 1795 f: (852) 2523 1522

Rob Davidson

[Dear Richard, Thank you for offering to meet...](#)

16/10/2015 11:51:35 PM

From: Rob Davidson <foi+request-29-32c95da7@accessinfo.hk>
To: armour@ugc.edu.hk,
Date: 16/10/2015 11:51 PM
Subject: Re: Code on Access to Information - Request for Review

Dear Richard,

Thank you for offering to meet with me to discuss this matter. I note that you will be away for some of the coming week on business. I too will be away on business and will not return until 4th November. As is so often the case, being away from the office for so long leads to a rather hectic schedule upon return and so it would be difficult for me to schedule anything sooner than 10th November.

I feel that this sort of delay is perhaps unnecessary and that my rationale for requesting the review is fairly straightforward - first I felt that the time taken to produce the response to my original request was too long, especially given the minimal information provided; second, I felt that the UGC excuse for not providing more information was not likely to be valid.

That latter concern may sound quite strongly worded but I simply mean that it seemed unlikely that discussions about updates to a Common Data Collection Format would be likely to cause the sort of situation referred to by clause 2.10(b) and 2.14(a) of the Code. I am therefore requesting

clarification that no information can be provided regarding the incremental updates to said data format due to the likelihood of this inhibiting frankness and candour in future business of the UGC (as per clause 2.10b) or that these discussions and their outputs were held under strictest confidence and all third parties are unwilling to have them aired (as per clause 2.14a).

If further clarification is required, I will be responding to email whilst abroad so please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Rob

-----Original Message-----

Dear Mr Davidson,

Let me introduce myself, I am Richard Armour from the UGC. I will be conducting the internal review of the Secretariat's decisions and handling of your request under the Code on Access to Information. It would help me very much if we could arrange a time for us to meet, preferably at our office in Wanchai so that I can hear more about your concerns before I come to a view.

In terms of timing I have to travel overseas on business for three days next week but I am back in the office from Thursday 22nd Oct. I would be very grateful if we could meet before the end of next week.

If you would call my office at the number below or reply to this email we can try to make arrangements.

With best regards,

Richard

Dr Richard T Armour JP
Secretary-General, University Grants Committee, Hong Kong
e: [email address] t: (852) 2524 1795 f: (852) 2523 1522

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