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Our Ref: FOI/08/048-049

10 June 2008

Mr D J Keenan
The Limehouse Cut
London
E14 6NQ

Dear Mr Keenan

Dendrochronology Research

My correspondence, dated 16 May 2008, refers.

Having now had an opportunity to review your request and to consult with relevant colleagues, I can confirm that, although information relating to research undertaken by the Department of Archaeology and Palaeoecology on dendrochronology is held by the University, it is not available in such a way as to allow the University to accede to your recent requests. To prepare the data for release, would exceed the "appropriate limit" provided by the Freedom of Information (FOI) and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, i.e. 18 hours of staff time. As such, your request is being refused under Section 12 of the FOI Act.

In the interest of providing appropriate advice and assistance to you as required under Section 16 of the FOI Act, I would confirm that the Department has already made a substantial amount of statistical data emanating from its research on dendrochronology available through the International Tree-Ring Data Bank. Maintained by the NOAA Paleoclimatology Programme and World Data Centre for Paleoclimatology, this information is freely accessible to you on the following website:

<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/paleo/treering.html>

Please note that given the availability of this information, the University is not obliged to provide you with additional copies, as this information would be exempt under Section 21 of the FOI Act (Information accessible to the applicant by other means).

In issuing this information, the University has fulfilled its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If you are dissatisfied with the response provided, please put your complaint in writing to me at the above address. If this fails to resolve the matter, you have the right to apply to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Jamison
Head of the Registrar's Office