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Our ref: FOI/10/65

23 June 2010

Mr D Keenan
The Limehouse Cut
LONDON
E14 6NQ

Dear Mr Keenan

Freedom of Information Request Appeal – Location of Tree

My letters, dated 12 May and 4 June 2010, on the above refer.

I note your correspondence, dated 9 June 2010, in respect of descriptions of the locations where the trees were found, and would respond as follows:

Whilst it is acknowledged that, under the Environmental Information Regulations, there is no time limit on the amount of time to process a request, the estimated 220 hours that it would take to provide the information requested is viewed unreasonable. In my previous correspondence, dated 4 June 2010, it was stated that much of the information requested was held within the University and that the most accurate information on localities is provided in the publications cited on the website and in databases, including the International Tree Ring Database (ITRDB). The University is happy to provide specific information that cannot be found in these sources should you wish to submit a revised request. The University, however, does not hold a list that shows which localities are, or are not, covered by the above sources.

In addition, and as previously advised, the University is in the process of publishing information on its website on an ongoing basis. The University would be more than willing to accommodate a visit to its laboratory to view the archives first hand. I would propose, therefore, that all files are made available to you to review at the University, with a member of staff in attendance to answer any particular issues you may have. This member of staff will also, on request, provide photocopies, under the FOI Act, of any specific documentation which you require.

If you are happy to proceed as set out above, you should contact the Head of School, Professor Keith Bennett, by telephone on 028 9097 5140 or email at hos.gap@qub.ac.uk to make the appropriate arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Troy
Registrar's Office