



Home Office

Identity & Passport Service

Headquarters
Identity and Passport Service
Parliamentary & Correspondence
Management Team
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XXXXXXX XXXXXXXXX

Reference: 17949/11

Date: 30 March 2011

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Dear XXXXXXXXXXXX

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your e-mail of 2 March, in which you ask for information on passport costs. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am able to disclose the information set out in the enclosed Annex.

In keeping with the Freedom of Information Act, we assume that all information can be released to the public unless it is exempt. In line with normal practice we are therefore releasing the information which you requested via the Home Office website.

I hope that this information meets your requirements. I would like to assure you that we have provided you with all relevant information that the Identity and Passport Service (IPS) holds.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference FOI 17949/11. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team
Home Office
Ground Floor, Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

E-mail: FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

X XXXXXXX
Freedom of Information Team



ANNEX

Freedom of Information request from X Xxxxxxx Reference: 17949/11

Information requested

Please supply a breakdown of the costs associated with the issuing of

1. a new 10 year passport for a UK adult citizen
2. a replacement 10 year passport for a UK adult citizen

Response

Breakdown of Passport Costs (1st time and replacement)

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) is required to generate enough income from passport fees to cover no more than the cost of issuing passports and providing support services such as our Adviceline, plus a contribution towards the cost of emergency consular assistance to British passport holders when travelling overseas.

The current adult passport fee is £77.50, below is a breakdown of the elements that make up the adult passport fee:

Adult Passport Fee - Cost Breakdown	
Application Processing	£31.60
FCO Consular Premium	£15.62
Production & Personalisation of Book	£10.79
Delivery	£3.30
Overhead/Administration	£16.19
Total	£77.50

Price increases over recent years have been driven mainly by a number of service changes and other factors including: the introduction of ePassports; authentication by interview for first time passport applicants; secure delivery; a number of anti-fraud initiatives; and forecast demand. As those service changes enhance the integrity of all passports issued by IPS, the associated costs have been distributed across all passport applications.

Passport fees only recover the operational costs incurred in processing passport applications and are not used to recover any costs of other IPS operations. The passport fee is reviewed by HM Treasury to ensure that there is no cross subsidisation between IPS activities and that the passport fee only recovers costs of passport operations. Further detail is provided within the IPS Annual Report and Accounts, which are available in the "Publications - Corporate" section on their website [here](#).

Whilst there are no current plans to make any changes to passport fees, we will review fees for different types of application, when the fees for passports are next revised, to ensure value for money.

Date : 30 March 2011

