

8 August 2012

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0798-12

Thank you for your email of 27 July in which you requested under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) the following information:

- *“either the numbers or any documents detailing how much has been spent on external (i.e. non civil servant) speechwriters in total for each of the last 5 years;*
- *a break down of these costs separately for ministers and for senior civil servants, also for the last 5 years.”*

As all speechwriters have been employed as civil servants in the past five years, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has no documents suggesting that we have spent anything on “external (i.e. non civil servant) speechwriters” over the past five years.