Thank you for your request for information which we received on 24 February 2015. In your request you asked:

‘Please provide details of any Kenyan counter-terrorism units with which Foreign and Commonwealth Office has a close working relationship or has had a close working relationship in the past five years.’

We subsequently sought clarification from you on i) what you mean by a ‘close working relationship’ ii) what ‘details’ exactly you are requesting. On 16 April you replied:

i. In the interests of clarity, please feel free to interpret “close working relationship” as “any ongoing operational or financial relationship, including the provision of training, funding or ongoing operational support”

ii. We are requesting the name(s) of any Kenyan counter-terrorism units with which the FCO or HMG has, or has in the past five years had, such a relationship.

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information in relation to your request. I am pleased to be able to provide you with this.

The counter-terrorism units with which the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has a close working relationship in the past five years are:

- Anti Terrorism Police Unit
- Bomb Disposal Unit
- The Specialist CT Unit in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

Further to this, the FCO can neither confirm nor deny whether it holds any additional information that would meet the terms of your request, in reliance on the exemptions in sections 23(5) and 24(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. To the extent that section 24(2) applies, the department has determined that in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining exclusion of the duty to confirm or deny outweighs the public interest in confirming whether or not the information is held, and to give a statement of the circumstances.
reasons why the exception applies would involve the disclosure of exempt information. Therefore, under section 17(4) of the Act, the FCO is not obliged to give such a statement. However, this should not be taken as necessarily indicating that any further information what would meet your request exists or does not exist.

Yours sincerely,

Kenya Desk Officer
Counter Terrorism Department