



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

30 September 2014

ASEAN Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0911-14

Thank you for your email of 21 September asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I recently applied for an advertised Locally Engaged ECO position in the visa section of the British Embassy Bangkok. I was not invited for interview. I have two questions :

How many people applied for this position ?

How many people were called for interview ?

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request. Some of the information is being withheld under section 40 – personal information.

I can confirm 30 applicants applied for the locally engaged ECO position in the Visa Section of the British Embassy in Bangkok.

The information you have requested with reference to how many people were called for interview is, however, personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless it is exempt. The information we have supplied to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

Yours sincerely,

ASEAN Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.