



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**Commercial & Procurement Group**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

4 October 2016

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

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0787-16**

Thank you for your email of 19<sup>th</sup> August asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*Q1. Could you please list all embassies, Consulates, High Commissions, Deputy High Commissions and Liaison Offices abroad.*

*Q2. Please List the security company that protects that building*

*Q3. Please list the estimated contract value for each security companies that is employed for guarding or protection duties on embassies, Consulates, High Commissions, Deputy High Commissions and Liaison Offices abroad.*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested and can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

Under section 21 of the FOIA the FCO is not obliged to provided information to a request if the information you seek is already reasonably available or accessible to you. The information to your question 1 can be found on the website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/world/embassies>.

In response to your questions 2 and 3, please find at Annex A below the information that the FCO can release to you. Some of the information you have requested has been withheld using Section 24 (1) National Security. Section 24 is a qualified exemption, which means that it is subject to a public interest test. We acknowledge the public interest in openness and transparency, but we consider that there is also a public interest in the FCO protecting national security. Having reviewed the requested material, we are concerned that its release would undermine effective operation of the relevant contracts and consequently adversely impact on the UK's security. We have concluded that the exemption applies and that withholding the material serves the public interest better than release in this instance.

We have provided details of the contracts with security companies which we hold centrally. We are unable to provide details of locally awarded contracts. Expenditure is devolved to various directorates and departments within the FCO in London as well as the global network of overseas missions in over 170 countries. To provide details of all contracts signed with security companies overseas can only be obtained at disproportionate cost. This is in full compliance with Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

Commercial Procurement Group



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.

**Annex A:**

**The total value of current contracts awarded to security companies.**

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Value</b>
Argus	£0.2m
Essoka	£0.2m
Fiducial private security	£0.3m
GardaWorld	£19.3m
G4S	£64.3m
KK Security	£0.6m
Pilgrims Group	£3.0m
Safeguard Security	£1.2m
Securitas	£0.8m
Tempest Security	£0.4m