



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Communications Directorate
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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23 November 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1006-16

Thank you for your email of 26 October 2016 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked a number of questions about the Chevening Scholarships Programme.

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

The Chevening Scholarship Programme attracts influential individuals from around the world to study for one year in the UK and is an important element in securing Britain's influence in the world. Chevening helps the UK achieve its international objectives on issues such as economic growth and national security by creating positive relationships with business leaders, politicians and decision makers across the globe. Overall, this Programme has created more than 46,000 alumni since it began in 1983.

I have answered your questions in turn below.

What were the total annual running costs of the Chevening Scholarship Programme for the most recent year for which data is available?

The total annual administrative running costs for the Chevening Scholarship Programme for 2015/16 were £3,980,000. The total FCO spend on the scholarship programme, including scholar costs (e.g. tuition fees, monthly stipends, allowances, flights) was £45,740,000. These costs reflect the tripling of the Programme to c.1,800 scholars per year.

What proportion of those running costs were met by the FCO, and what proportion were met by 'partner organisations'? Please give a total figure for the FCO's expenditure.

All running costs were borne by the FCO. Private partner funding received in 2015/16 was spent entirely on direct scholarship costs (e.g. tuition fees and monthly stipend).

Please could you let me know who the ‘partner organisations’ for the Chevening programme currently are.

Please see table one below.

In the most recent year for which data is available, what was the cost to the FCO of the four receptions, topical talk series, lectures, ‘Best of British presents’ and workshops arranged for Chevening scholars? I assume these expenses are a subset of the expenses discussed in question 1, but if not, please could you explain.

Name of Event	Cost
Receptions	Receptions were not held in 2015/16.
Topical Talk Series	The Topical Talk Series was not run in 2015/16.
Best of British Presents	£4,381.53
Workshops	£7,272.86

Please can you provide details as to the nature of the ‘Best of British’ and ‘Best of British events’ that were organised for the most recent year. I.e, what were the names of the events, and what did they consist of.

These events are held to promote British values, history and culture to the scholars and help us achieve the programme’s aim of maintaining Britain’s influence and leadership on the world stage.

Best of British Presents Events

- Visit to Scottish Parliament and the Royal Society of Edinburgh - Chevening scholars had the opportunity to visit the Scottish Parliament and hear speeches at the Royal Society of Edinburgh.
- Visit to the National Assembly for Wales – Scholars were welcomed to Cardiff University by the Vice-Chancellor and introduced to Welsh language, culture and politics in a series of talks. They also visited the Senedd.
- Visit to the Northern Ireland Assembly and Giant’s Causeway - Scholars visited the Northern Ireland Assembly, Stormont, and heard talks on Northern Irish politics and history. Scholars visited the Giant’s Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, followed by a trip to Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge in Ballintoy.
- Burn’s Night Ceilidh in Glasgow - Scholars learned about Scottish poet Robert Burns.

Best of British Events

- ‘Blenheim Palace: Celebrating Our Greatest Briton’ - Scholars spent a day at Blenheim Palace exploring the birthplace and ancestral home of Sir Winston Churchill.
- ‘Hampton Court Palace: A Royal Day Out’ - The trip included a tour by a tour guide of Hampton Court.
- ‘The History of Football in Manchester’ - Scholars toured Old Trafford football stadium and heard from leading experts in the field to hear about the history of the

sport, the role it plays in the local community and the future of football as an international franchise.

- 'Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon' - Scholars learned about Shakespeare from Professor David Schalkwyk and Dr Katherine Hennessey (Global Shakespeare, University of Warwick and Queen Mary University).
- 'Canterbury Tales' - Scholars visited the city of Canterbury with a walking tour and a visit to the Canterbury Tales museum for an introduction to Geoffrey Chaucer's collection of stories.
- 'The Real Mary King Close Tour' - Scholars explored Mary King's Close and were guided through the history of the area.
- 'Let's Play Cricket' - Scholars learned about cricket at Loughborough University; the history of the sport, its international roots and how it has changed through history.
- 'Medieval Day' - Run in partnership with the University of York, scholars visited the World Heritage Site of Fountains Abbey.
- 'Day trip to Stonehenge and Old Sarum' - Scholars visited Stone Henge and Old Sarum. For this event, the University of Southampton provided a coach and three expert tour guides from their Archaeology department.
- 'U20s Rugby World Championship' - Scholars heard from an RFU speaker and attended day one of the championships; scholars learned about the history of rugby alongside the rules and governance of the sport.
- 'Whitby Steam Adventure' - Scholars travelled on a vintage steam railway through the North York Moors to Whitby learning about the history of the region and transport infrastructure in the UK.
- 'North Wales Trip' – Scholars visited Penrhyn Castle and Mount Snowdon in order to learn about Welsh history.

Please provide a breakdown of the nationalities of students for the most recent year for which data is available – how many from China, India, Malaysia, etc.

Please see table two below.

What were the total costs associated with the festival held at Chevening House in 2014 to mark 30 years of the scholarship programme?

The costs associated with the festival amounted to £122,645. This included costs for venue and marquee hire, catering, outdoor audiovisual set-up and security.

Please provide information as to the size of the monthly personal living allowance and study travel grant provided to students. If it varies, please provide a range.

The current monthly living wage allowances are:

- Within London: £1,280
- Outside of London: £1,036

The Study Travel Grant is no longer paid to scholars separately.

What is the purpose of a travel top up allowance, and how much is it for? If the answer varies, please provide a range.

The travel top up allowance is a contribution to the costs scholars bear in attending mandatory Chevening events. The amount provided should cover two economy class return fares where these are booked in good time by the scholars. The one-off amount received depends on the UK region where the scholar is based. London based scholars do not receive this allowance as the events are held in London.

Chevening region	Current events travel top-up amount
London	N/A
South East (inc. Cambridge)	£65
Oxford, Wales, Midlands, South West	£89
North East, North West	£133
Scotland, Northern Ireland	£178

What proportion of students studying in the most recent year were terminated from the scholarship before successfully completing their course? And how many of these left due to misconduct issues?

One scholarship was terminated in 2015/16. This was not due to misconduct, but because the scholar concerned was ineligible for a UK visa. .

Yours sincerely,

Communication Directorate



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.

Table One - Chevening Programme Partners

African Fellowship Trust
Allen & Overy
Amerisur Resources
BAE Systems
Bangor University
Bank of Philippine Islands
Bath University
BCCK
BECAL
Belarusky Norodny Bank
British Petroleum
Brunel University
Cardiff University
China Scholarships Council
CIMB
CK Hutchison
Cofftea
Delta Electronics International Ltd
Diageo
Durham University
GlaxoSmithKline
Herzog
HSBC
IFHARU
Kenana
King Abdullah Fund for Development
King Power Duty Free Co., Ltd
London School of Economics and Political Science
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Loughborough University
LUYS Foundation
Mansion House
Mansion House
Marga Landmark Development Co.
Megaworld Corporation
Ministerio de Educación Superior Ciencia y Tecnología
Mongolian Ministry of Education and Science
Mongolian Ministry of Education, Culture & Science
Orascom Telecom Media and Technology Holdings
PCA Life Korea
Petrofac
Petroleum Training and Education Fund
Pinheiro Neto
Prudence Foundation
Prudential
Queen Mary University of London
Queen Rania Foundation
Rio Tinto
Said Foundation
Secretaría de Educación Pública de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos
Singapore Alumnus Donor
Swansea University
The AngloMexican Foundation

The Cambridge Commonwealth, European & International Trust

The National Research and Innovation Agency

The Shell Centenary Scholarship Fund

The Tree of Life Foundation

University College London

UCLAN

University of Aberdeen

University of Birmingham

University of Dundee

University of East Anglia

University of Edinburgh

University of Exeter Strategy and Security Institute

University of Glasgow

University of Leeds

University of Nottingham

University of Salford

University of South Wales

University of Southampton

University of Surrey

University of Warwick

Winston Wong

Zaki Hashem and Partners

Table Two – 2016/17 Scholar Nationalities

Country	Number
Afghanistan	18
Albania	5
Algeria	9
Angola	4
Anguilla	4
Antigua and Barbuda	1
Argentina	34
Armenia	7
Australia	2
Azerbaijan	5
Bahamas	1
Bangladesh	12
Barbados	2
Belarus	5
Belize	11
Benin	1
Bhutan	5
Bolivia	9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12
Botswana	9
Brazil	83
Brunei Darussalam	2
Burma	12
Burundi	2
Cambodia	20
Cameroon	18
Canada	2
Cape Verde	2
Cayman Islands	2
Chile	20
China	90
Colombia	33
Congo, The Democratic Republic Of The	1
Costa Rica	11
Cuba	11
Dominica	3
Dominican Republic	8
Ecuador	9
Egypt	64
El Salvador	6
Ethiopia	10
Fiji	4
Georgia	16

Ghana	21
Grenada	2
Guatemala	4
Guinea	2
Guyana	21
Haiti	2
Honduras	6
Hong Kong	16
Iceland	1
India	67
Indonesia	67
Iraq	24
Islamic Republic of Iran	15
Israel	4
Jamaica	23
Japan	3
Jordan	27
Kazakhstan	8
Kenya	30
Kiribati	1
Kosovo	4
Kyrgyzstan	6
Lao People's Democratic Republic	8
Lebanon	13
Lesotho	6
Liberia	5
Libya	13
Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic Of	5
Madagascar	10
Malawi	12
Malaysia	40
Maldives	2
Mauritania	2
Mauritius	6
Mexico	81
Moldova, Republic Of	7
Mongolia	13
Montenegro	11
Montserrat	2
Morocco	4
Mozambique	7
Namibia	9
Nepal	13
New Zealand	1

Nicaragua	4
Nigeria	50
Oman	8
Pakistan	74
Palestinian Territory, Occupied	25
Panama	13
Papua New Guinea	3
Paraguay	16
Peru	14
Philippines	26
Republic of Korea	24
Russian Federation	13
Rwanda	11
Saint Kitts and Nevis	1
Saint Lucia	6
Saint Vincent and The Grenadines	2
Samoa	2
Sao Tome And Principe	1
Senegal	2
Serbia	10
Seychelles	6
Sierra Leone	8
Singapore	3
Solomon Islands	5
Somalia	7
South Africa	57
South Caucasus	3
South Sudan	5
Sri Lanka	7
Sudan	12
Swaziland	7
Syrian Arab Republic	35
Taiwan (Republic of China)	5
Tajikistan	2
Tanzania	11
Thailand	30
The Gambia	9
Timor-Leste	1
Tonga	1
Trinidad and Tobago	4
Tunisia	2
Turkey	16
Turkmenistan	4
Turks and Caicos Islands	1
Uganda	9

Ukraine	14
Uruguay	29
Uzbekistan	7
Vanuatu	2
Venezuela	10
Vietnam	27
Yemen	8
Zambia	17
Zimbabwe	17