



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Corporate Procurement Group
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Old Admiralty Building
London SW1A 2PA

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

13 September 2013

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request – Ref 0738-13

Thank you for your email of 8th August asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Please restrict it [question 2] to apply to expenditure on items below £500 to the first six months of 2013.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I'd be grateful if you could help me with the following about government procurement card spending.

- 1. Please provide me with a breakdown of the department's spending via government procurement cards, in annual breakdown over the years 2010/2011/2012, listing how much was spent in each year.*
- 2. Please include in this breakdown the amount charged on each occasion over 2010/2011/2012, when it was charged, and what it was for. Please include detail like if any department trips, what the name of the hotel was, or any food – what the brand/restaurant was, as is feasible within cost/time limits.*

I should add that I am conscious of the government's programme of publishing GPC spending monthly when the transactions are above £500. However I should make clear as regards any overlap of my request with already publicly available information, that I would be interested in the information below £500.

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.

Annual Breakdown of GPC spend 2010/2011/2012

This information has already been provided to you under FOI 0560-13 but for ease of reference we provide the following totals.

Please be aware that the information is based on individual government procurement cards only. The Government Procurement Card (GPC) is a credit card for purchasing low value goods and services. The use of a GPC for such purchases replaces the need for processing large numbers of low value payment transactions, offering significant benefits and efficiency savings over the usual Purchase to Pay (P2P) process.

RBS did not take over the FCO GPC contract until October 2010. We are pursuing the balance of the data with our previous GPC provider (Barclaycard) and will provide you with this information in due course. However, in the interest of providing you with an answer to most of your question as soon possible please see the totals below:

Financial Year 2010/2011: £ 788,459

Financial Year 2011/2012: £1,471,553

Financial Year 2012/2013: £2,616,544

Detail Breakdown of Amounts less than £500 charged for Jan 2013

Thank you for your correspondence of 8th August 2013 refining your initial request to expenditure for January 2013, this has enabled us to action your request without incurring disproportionate costs. We are working with our GPC provider to process the information required and anticipate delivering this information to you by 25th October 2013. Thank you for your continued patience.

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.

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Yours sincerely,

Corporate Procurement Group



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