



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

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

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

25 October 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. In our reply to you; sent on 13th September, we promised to provide you with information in answer to part 2 of your request:

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.*

Please restrict it [question 2] to apply to expenditure on items below £500 for January 2013.

As you are aware, the FCO does hold information relevant to your request, which we have been working on.

Please find attached an Excel spreadsheet detailing GPC spend for the period requested. Please note that this spreadsheet contains information for both Government Procurement Cards (GPC) and FCO Corporate Credit Cards (CCC). The distinction is that GPC is used for the purchase of goods and services on behalf of the FCO and the CCC is for expenses incurred by staff during travel, such as, food and drink in the course of their official duties.

We have withheld any personal information as per section 40 (Personal Information) of the Freedom of Information Act. This may also include the names of hotels, which could be used in tandem with the date of bookings to identify individuals. We deem that releasing this data would breach the first data protection principle, which states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. Section 40(2) and (3) of the FOIA therefore apply. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which we think would be breached by disclosure in this case. In this instance section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure and so we do not need to apply the public interest test.

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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