



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Human Resources Directorate
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

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

25 January 2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0021-18

Thank you for your email of 5 January 2018 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

How many settlements for sexual harassment or workplace discrimination suits the department has had to make in each of the last five years. If settlements were made, please provide me with the full sums made, and the names of any individuals involved, if available.

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.

In the last five years, there were no settlements for sexual harassment and one case of workplace discrimination.

Disclosing any further details about personal data relating to third parties, would contravene one of the data protection principles and may allow individual identities to be revealed. 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, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Yours sincerely,

Human Resources 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.