



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

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

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

13 August 2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0688-14

Thank you for your email of 15 July asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I am writing to request information regarding the FCO's expenditure on Healix (last 12 months) and related sub-contractors

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.

We are currently retendering our healthcare contract and we believe that releasing this information at this time may either prejudice Healix's bid or give competitors an unfair advantage.

Furthermore we believe that disclosing this information at this stage could have a negative impact on the FCO's ability to get a good deal for the taxpayer out of the tendering process for a new contract

Therefore, this information has been withheld under section 43(2) of the Act as its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person. This exemption requires the application of a public interest test.

The use of this exemption was carefully considered. The factors in favour of disclosure of this information including the general public interest and greater transparency and

accountability, were carefully weighed against the general need to allow business-people and commercial organisations the space to conduct their lawful business competitively and without fear of disclosure of sensitive commercial information. In this case after such consideration we believe that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in its release.

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.

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.