



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

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

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

12 February 2014

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1054-13**

Thank you for your email of 11 November asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*Please can you provide details of how FCU deals with whistleblowing allegations including policy, procedure, timescales. Please can you clarify whether these policies and procedures would cover only FCO personnel or whether they would cover seconded Civil Servants and also external contractors. Please also clarify how the FCU is audited to ensure fairness of its investigations.*

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.

Please find attached a copy of the information relevant to your request which shows how the FCO deals with “whistleblowing” allegations which is known as “Raising Concerns” in the FCO.

A concern could be raised by anyone (an FCO member of staff; a contractor or a member of the public). If the concern raised involves any funds or monies for which the PUS is accountable (i.e. FCO funds/money) then FCU will investigate in all cases, as laid out in the ‘Outline Description of the Approach that FCU Takes to Conducting any Investigation Under the Raising Concerns Procedures’ document.

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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I hope you are satisfied with this reply.

Yours sincerely,

Knowledge Management Officer  
Human Resources Directorate



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