



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Knowledge and Technology Directorate
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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3 February 2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0003-14

Thank you for your email of 1 January asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

“I’d like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- 1. Please provide figures for how many departmental staff have been issued with a) smart phones b) standard mobile phones c) tablet computers d) standard laptops in each of the past three financial years.***
- 2. How many of these smart phones have been reported as lost or stolen in each of the past three years.***
- 3. How many of these mobile phones have been reported as lost or stolen in each of the past three years.***
- 4. How many of these tablet computers have been reported as lost or stolen in each of the past three years.***
- 5. How many of these laptops have been reported as lost or stolen in each of the past three years.”***

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 some information relevant to your request.

We interpret your request to be for the information we hold on devices purchased through central FCO funds for officers in the UK and the FCO’s network of nearly 270 diplomatic overseas posts. These figures do not include any purchases made by our posts overseas using devolved budgets and who may have purchased devices and have contracts with local mobile telephone providers. Records of such purchases are not held centrally.

From centrally held records, the FCO has approximately 4,000 mobile devices in use. This number includes mobile and smart phones, Blackberry and data devices. The FCO has approximately 7,000 laptops connected to its classified Information Communication Technology (ICT) system. No tablet technologies, such as Apple’s iPad or similar

technologies such as Windows Smart technologies are used or supported on the official FCO ICT system.

Some of the information is also exempt under section 21 of the FOIA. We are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested on lost and stolen mobile telephones and laptops is available at:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm121212/text/121212w0002.htm#12121272000123> (Citation: HC Deb, 12 December 2012, c341W).

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130603/text/130603w0003.htm#130603w0003.htm_wqn61 (Citation: HC Deb, 3 June 2013, c857W).

Yours sincerely,

Knowledge and Technology 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.