



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

South America Department  
Americas Directorate  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

27 January 2014

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

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1185-13**

Thank you for your email of 16 December 2013 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

*The amount spent on Entertainment in the British Embassies in...Brasilia and Mexico City...during the calendar years of 2012 and to date in 2013.*

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. This information is set out below:

The total amount of Direct Entertainment Expenses and Representational Requirements spend in Brasilia for 2012 was £36,347. For 2013, this figure was £32,110.

For Mexico City, the amount spent on Direct Entertainment Expenses and Representational Requirements in calendar year 2012 was £82,156. In 2013, the total spend was £36,990. The higher level of expenditure in 2012 is in part attributed to a major public diplomacy effort around the Olympics and Diamond Jubilee, for example in June the Embassy hosted a Queen's Birthday Party with 2000 guests from business, government, arts, and education to celebration the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics. The event also acted as a major platform for promotion of British goods and products. Spend in 2013 was reduced in line with a drive across the board to reduce budgets.

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. However, if you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the FOI and DPA Team, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.10-13, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,



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