



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

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

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

19 January 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0002-2016

Thank you for your email of 1 January 2016 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

- 1) *Do diplomatic staff receive any residency allowance when posted abroad? Please provide details.*
- 2) *Are they expected to meet the costs of their accommodation abroad from their own salary?*
- 3) *Are diplomatic staff offered residence apartments rented/owned by the UK government abroad?*

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.

Residential accommodation, which can be either rented or owned by the FCO, is provided for the use of staff, their spouses/ partners and dependent children whilst they are posted overseas by the FCO. The FCO represents the UK in over 160 countries and most staff undertake multiple overseas placements throughout their career. As such accommodation is provided to give staff members and their families somewhere appropriate to live while working overseas; no monetary allowance is paid. Properties are allocated based on family size, operational requirements and local circumstances. Similar arrangements apply to those posted overseas by other Government departments.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on gov.uk in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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.