



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Commercial and Economic Diplomacy
Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Old Admiralty Building
London SW1A 2AP

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

5 February 2015

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0963-14

Thank you for your email of 8 August asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

the amount paid to the CBI (and its regional subsidiaries) for the period 2009-14:

- a) *In membership fees*
- b) *Fees for one off conferences or other events, and*
- c) *Fees paid to the CBI for any other services*

Please make clear if the response includes payments from any Non-Departmental Public Bodies, Executive Agencies etc which fall under the department and please provide a breakdown of what payments came from which agency/body.

I apologise for the delay in replying to your request. We have concluded our search of all data held centrally in the UK and by our posts overseas, and I can confirm that we do hold information that meets your request. All payments referred to in this letter pertain only to payments made by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) following direct invoicing from Confederation of Business Industry (CBI). We do not hold records regarding payment to CBI by any of our non-departmental public bodies or executive agencies.

Regarding part a) of your question above, our records show no data regarding the payment of membership fees by FCO to CBI for the time period 2009 – 2014.

Regarding payments for one-off conferences and other events (part b of your request) our records show that £6,042.06 was paid to CBI for events in the UK and US\$1,126.97 for events held in the US during the time period 2009 -2014.

Our records also show that the FCO paid £18,326.81 for other services provided by CBI, principally the delivery of two projects to promote trade and investment opportunities for

British businesses. We also paid US\$9,500 for the production and publication of a report on trade and investment opportunities for British businesses in the US.

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 K4.14, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: 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

Commercial and Economic Diplomacy Department

