

**We were asked:**

Q1. How much alcohol has been purchased by the department in each of the past five years.

**We replied:**

A1. The information you require covering the period 2009 – 2010 is already in the public domain therefore it is exempt from disclosure.

We are not obliged to provide information if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means (section 21(1) of the Act). The terms of this exemption in the Freedom of Information Act mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for you to have the information.

This information can be accessed via the following links:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200910/cmhansrd/cm091214/text/91214w0004.htm>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201212/cmhansrd/cm120201/text/120201w0004.htm>

In financial year 2012-13 the Wales Office spent a total of £232.65 on alcohol. Spend for 2013-14 is £629.24 (yet to be audited).

The Department did not purchase alcohol in 2010-11 or 2011-12. The alcohol used at official functions in those years was from stock that had been purchased by the previous Government. The Department resumed purchasing alcohol in 2012-13 only when the existing stocks were used up.

The Wales Office does not purchase alcohol for staff functions.