



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

27 January 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1235-15

Thank you for your email of 23 December asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Question 1: College of Policing/British Embassy in Saudi:

Please can you confirm the following in relation to the period between January 2010 and the date of this request:

How many meetings have taken place between representatives of the British Government (or representatives of any public bodies connected to the British Government) at the British Embassy or Consulate in Saudi Arabia and representatives of the Saudi government, Saudi police forces or other Saudi law enforcement officials to discuss the provision of training to Saudis by the College of Policing in the UK?

Question 2: Britons in Saudi Custody:

How many Britons are currently serving prison sentences in Saudi Arabia?

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.

Question 1: We have records of 3 meetings taking place between Foreign Office representatives and Saudi Arabian representatives about the provision of training by the College of Policing.

Question 2: The number of British nationals currently jailed in Saudi Arabia, as at 26 January 2016, is five or fewer.

I have withheld the precise number of individuals that were jailed to avoid the risk of identifying the individuals concerned. To release this data would contravene one of the data protection principles.

In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

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Yours sincerely,

Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department



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