



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

01 December 2015

Visits, Protocol  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

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

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1062-15**

Thank you for your email of 03 November 2015 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for documents relating to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office ("FCO")'s dealings with the Manchester City Football Club ("MCFC") over the state visit of President Xi Jinping in October of 2015 and the induction of Sun Jihai into the National Football Museum's Hall of Fame.

The documents requested are:

1. A list of all meetings between officials from the FCO and MCFC ahead of & in relation to the Xi's visit.
2. All messages (emails, texts, BBMs or chat messages) to or from FCO Minister of State Hugo Swire, FCO Permanent Secretary Sir Simon McDonald, and finally FCO Special Advisers Graham Hook and Hayden Allan carrying the keywords "Manchester City," "Jihai," or "Hall of Fame" between May 15, 2015 and October 30, 2015.
3. Any reports, briefings or similar memos drawn up about Sun Jihai during that same period.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested and the FCO does hold some information relating to your request:

1. Meetings were held between the FCO and City Football Group on the following dates:
  - i. Friday 12 June
  - ii. Monday 28 September
  - iii. Friday 9 October
  - iv. Thursday 15 October
  - v. Thursday 22 October
2. The FCO does not hold any information relating to your second question.
3. The FCO holds two briefing documents which reference Sun Jihai which we have attached. Any information that is not in scope of the question has been removed.

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Yours sincerely,

Protocol Directorate



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