



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**Protocol Directorate**

Lancaster House  
St James's  
London  
SW1A 1BB

[www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

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**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – REQUEST REFERENCE: 0872-15**

Thank you for your e-mail of 6 September 2015 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I am sorry about the delay in replying to your enquiry. In your e-mail you requested:

*'I'd like to know how much the Foreign Office has spent on champagne and sparkling wine for the last five years for which figures are available'*

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold some information which is relevant to your request.

The only central records available relevant to your request cover expenditure on champagne or sparkling wines made by the UK contracted caterer to the FCO, ESS Compass.

We can confirm the following amounts have been spent on champagne and sparkling wine by ESS Compass (FCO UK estate contracted caterer) in the last 5 years by financial year (April to March):

Year	Spend (£)
2010/11	£1,705
2011/12	£2,027
2012/13	£1,124
2013/14	£2,271
2014/15	£1,950

In addition, Government Hospitality (part of Protocol Directorate of the FCO) procures new stock for the government wine cellar on an ad hoc basis. The GH wine cellar is self-financing and has been so since 2010. Net spending on champagne and sparkling wine during this period was therefore zero.

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Yours sincerely,

Head of Government Hospitality  
Protocol Directorate



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