



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Commercial Procurement Group
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

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

05 August 2015

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0667-15

Thank you for your email of 7 July 2015 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I seek the following information about the Department's staffing:

- 1. The number of FTEs in your procurement team. To clarify, by 'procurement team' I am referring to the team that is responsible for with issuing and managing tenders.*
- 2. The total salary cost of this team for the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 financial years.*

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.

There are currently 7 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) staff in the procurement team responsible for issuing and managing tenders.

Please find below the FCO salary scales for financial years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

2013-14

	Minimum (£)	Maximum (£)
A1	18,156	18,156
A2	19,605	21,912
B3	21,646	27,658
C4	26,363	32,834
C5	33,075	40,905
D6	43,514	56,339
D7	54,883	68,539
SMS1	60,000	117,800
SMS2	84,000	162,500
SMS3	103,000	208,100

2014-15

	Minimum (£)	Maximum (£)
A1	18,337	18,337
A2	19,805	21,912
B3	21,889	27,658
C4	26,640	32,834
C5	33,428	40,905
D6	43,967	56,339
D7	55,434	68,539
SMS1	62,000	117,800
SMS2	85,000	162,500
SMS3	104,000	208,100

The total salary cost of the procurement team, as you have requested, would require information on individual salaries. This is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which 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,

Commercial Procurement Group



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