



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Overseas Territories Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Old Admiralty Building
London SW1A 2PA

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

29 January 2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0019-15

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

On the 4th January 2015 an article appeared in the Sunday Times regarding a report entitled "Implementation of the UNCRC in the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories" that was submitted to the United Nations by the FCO. This article revealed that the report to the UN had been amended due to an error when reporting on the BOT of Saint Helena.

I would be grateful if you could supply me with the following information;

- 1. The date the original document was submitted to the UN.*
- 2. The date the error was discovered.*
- 3. How the error was discovered.*
- 4. The date the amended report was submitted to the UN.*

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.

The answers to your questions are:

1. The Department for Education (DfE), submitted the UK's fifth UNCRC periodic review report (including the Annex reporting on implementation in the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies) to the UK Mission (UKMIS) to the UN in Geneva, copying in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) on 23 May 2014. UKMIS forwarded the report and Annexes to the UN later the same day.
2. Early August 2014.

3. The error was brought to the attention of the FCO by media enquiries.

Once alerted to the error, FCO officials sent the correct information to the UN that there is evidence of child sexual exploitation on St Helena. Inclusion of the original comments was an error. We have since changed our clearance process to ensure this mistake is not repeated.

4. UKMIS submitted the amended report to the UN Committee on 17 November, upon the day of receipt.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless it is exempt. The information we have supplied to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

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Yours sincerely,

Child Safeguarding and Domestic Violence Policy Officer
Overseas Territories Department



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