



05 March 2015

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0182-15**

Thank you for your email of 18<sup>th</sup> February asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*What amount has your department spent on goods and services directly purchases from SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises) in the following years: 2011/12; 2012/13; 2013/14; 2014/15.*

*What is the total amount spent by your department on goods and services?*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested and can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

The information you have requested is in the following table:

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15 Apr- Dec 2014
Direct spend with SMEs	£35m	£39m	£54m	£79m
Total spend on goods and services with UK Suppliers	- <sup>1</sup>	£192m	£260m	£276m
Total worldwide spend on goods and services (incl. UK Supplier spend)	£712m	£666m	£669m	£454m

<sup>1</sup> This data was not captured in 2011/2012

As these figures show, over the last four years we have reduced our procurement costs and over the same period we have more than doubled the value of goods and services we purchase from SMEs.

We have also included data on spend in the UK for the years you have requested. A large proportion of FCO spend is the running costs of our network of missions in over 170 countries. Providing best value for money is the priority for all procurement and in such cases it is often not feasible or appropriate to source goods or services from the UK.

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Yours sincerely,

Open Government Liaison Officer  
Commercial Procurement Group



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