



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Arabian Peninsula and Iraq Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

Website: [www. GOV.UK/FCO](http://www.GOV.UK/FCO)

27 January 2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0925-14

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 which we received on 1 October. You asked:

What was the total cost of human rights training (for the Iraqi defence and security forces) contracts delivered by/facilitated by the UK in Iraq 2007-2009?

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested. I apologise for the delay in responding. Section 27(1)(a) of the FOIA recognises the need to protect information that would be likely to prejudice relations between the UK and other states if it was disclosed. While we considered withholding some information under this provision, we decided that it was not relevant in this case.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office does not hold a breakdown of costs relevant to this request. The information we have found below in italics, however, provides some information on projects supported by the UK in this period. I hope this is of some assistance.

UK STRATEGY FOR SECURITY AND JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM (SJSR) IN IRAQ 2008-09

Summary: The UK will sustain its support to the development of security and justice sector institutions in Iraq in 2008-09. We will maintain our commitment to Basra while pursuing wider reform at the centre. SJSR will contribute directly to HMG's goal of creating an Iraq that can defend itself and provide security to its people within a rule of law based system. Available civilian funds for SJSR in 2008-09 will be over £22m. These will be drawn from the Iraq Stabilisation Fund (£16.16m), the UK Peacekeeping budget (£8m) and the MOD administrative budget. Programme work will be embedded within a political strategy aimed at leveraging structural Iraqi change and more and better international engagement. Delivery of the strategy and programmes will be managed by HMG staff at Post, with strong cross-Whitehall back-up in London.

UK INVOLVEMENT AND ADDED VALUE

The 2008-09 strategy should build on the achievements and lessons of the last four years. Our involvement has been primarily in the following areas:

- *FCO Basra justice assistance: We have built regional and international links between the Basra judiciary and Middle Eastern centres of legal expertise and provided training in human rights, international humanitarian law and judicial independence.*
- *FCO assistance on human rights protection and promotion: We have advised the Ministry of Human Rights, supported the growth of civil society groups and providing human rights awareness training to all sectors of the Iraqi criminal justice system.*
- *DFID judicial training: 216 Iraqi judges, lawyers and prosecutors trained in human rights, international humanitarian law, and independence of the judiciary.*

DECEMBER 2007

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,

Arabian Peninsula and Iraq Department

