



Foreign &
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08 February 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI 0052-16

Thank you for your email of 15 January 2016 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

“Please provide me with the following information:

- 1. A list of all current Honorary Consuls, the date of their appointment, and the location of their Honorary Consulates;***
- 2. Please list (how) many Honorary Consuls have been removed from their post in the last five years, and for what reason? You do not need to provide personal information, or the location of their Honorary Consulates.”***

We have now completed our search and consultation process and I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold some information relevant to your request.

Disclosure



Please see the attached list of all current Honorary Consulates and the date of the appointment of the Honorary Consul.

Please note that Consular Directorate does not hold full details of Honorary Consuls solely involved in Prosperity and Political work, however I have tried to include the information where known. The same applies to information concerning how many Honorary Consuls have been removed from their post in the last 5 years.

Details of Honorary Consuls' removed from their post in the last five years, and the reason for their departure, is as follows:

Honorary Consul	Reason no longer in position
7	No longer required due to decreasing demand on Consular Services
13	Retired
4	Resigned
1	Professional Differences
2	Deceased

However it is FCO policy not to publicise the names of our Honorary Consuls.

We have to withhold personal data relating to third parties. To release this data would contravene one of the data protection principles and we are therefore withholding this information under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

The withheld information is personal information relating to third parties. In such circumstances sections 40 (2) and (3) of the FOIA 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, 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.



Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

Yours sincerely,

Consular Directorate

