

Political Section, UKRep Foreign and Commonwealth Office King Charles Street London SW1A 2AH

Website: https://www.gov.uk

12 October 2015

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST REF: 0607-15

Thank you for your email of 24 June asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like you to provide me with the number of staff employed at the UK Permanent Representation to the EU in each of the last 5 and on the latest date for which figures are available.

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 some information relevant to your request.

Please note that multi-lateral Missions such as UKRep Brussels include staff from a number of different government departments. We have interpreted your request to mean staff employed by the FCO.

The table below provides figures for FCO staff, both UK based and Locally Employed [LE], based at UKRep for the years in question. These staff numbers have been taken from centrally held records (with the exception of the latest figures, which are taken from local records). There will, of course, have been some small variation within the years in question.

Date	31-Mar- 2010	31-Mar- 2011	31-Mar- 2012	31-Mar- 2013	31-Mar- 2014	31-Mar- 2015	Latest available figures (June 2015 - locally held)
UKRep - FCO UK- based and LE	118	122	122	129	126	126	121

There is also information in the public domain which is relevant to your question. The FCO annual reports since 2012 have provided staffing levels for all UK based FCO staff at individual FCO Embassies and Missions. Under section 21 of the FOI Act we are not obliged to provide you with information, which is already easily accessible to you, however, the relevant links to the information can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foreign-and-commonwealth-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foreign-and-commonwealth-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2013-14--2

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foreign-and-commonwealth-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2012-13

The above reports give the following figures for <u>UK based</u> FCO staff at UKRep:

2014-152013-142012-1376

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 <u>gov.uk</u> in the <u>FOI releases</u> section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

Yours sincerely,

Political Section, UKRep



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