



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Global Transactional Processing Centre

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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23 June 2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0516-17

Thank you for your email of 26 May asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

VAT

1. *Does the Department use an external provider for VAT advisory services? If so, please provide the following details*

- a. *Name of provider*
- b. *Contract start and end date*
- c. *Total amount of VAT recovered by the provider in 2015/16*
- d. *Total amount paid to the provider for these services in 2015/16*

2. *Did the Department use an external provider for Re-Review VAT recovery in 2015/16? If so, please provide the following details*

- a. *Name of provider*
- b. *Total amount of additional VAT recovered by the provider in 2015/16*
- c. *Total amount paid to the provider for these services in 2015/16*

3. *Did the Department utilise any frameworks to procure any of the VAT services stated in Q1 and Q2. If so, please state which frameworks*

Accounts Payable

4. *What is the total number of invoices processed through accounts payable (AP) for 2015/16*

5. *What is the total expenditure through accounts payable (AP) for 2015/16 (£)*

6. *Could you provide the following information for all 3rd party providers the department has used to complete a review of Accounts Payable Invoices in the last 5 financial years:*

- a. *Name of provider*
- b. *Contract start and end date*

- c. *Total value of duplicated invoices/erroneous payments identified by the 3rd party in the last five financial years*
 - d. *How much did the 3rd party invoice the department for any review work undertaken?*
7. *What accounting system does the department use (Oracle, E-Financials, Sage etc.)*

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.

VAT

1. The FCO does not use an external provider for VAT advisory services. We apply many proactive measures before contracts are signed and VAT arrangements agreed with suppliers, as opposed to taking retrospective action. a - d therefore not applicable.
2. The FCO did not use an external provider for Re-Review VAT recovery in 2015/16 See our answer to question 1. a - c therefore not applicable.
3. The FCO did not utilise any frameworks to procure any of the VAT services stated in Q1 and Q2.

Accounts Payable

4. The total number of invoices processed through accounts payable (AP) for 2015/16 was 30,994.
5. The total expenditure processed through accounts payable (AP) for 2015/16 (£) was £730,489,902.35.
6. We have not used any 3rd party suppliers to review our Accounts Payable invoices. a - d therefore not applicable.
7. The accounting system used by the FCO is Oracle, Prism.

Yours sincerely,

Global Transactional Processing Centre



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.