



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

External Western and Southern Europe
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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11 April 2017

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: FOI 0272-17

Thank you for your email of 14th March 2017 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

My first request was to ask for a list of expatriate groups (particularly in France) which have been engaged by the UK government to discuss the implications of the UK leaving the EU, as referred to in the Government's White Paper concerning this matter. As you can see, the DExEU has stated that they do not hold this information, and that I should instead ask the FCO directly.

So, could you send me a list of expatriate groups which have been engaged by the UK government to discuss the implications of the UK leaving the EU please? If you could send me a list of all such groups in France, that would be much appreciated. Even if it's only a list of such groups in Strasbourg and the surrounding region, that would be fine.

Officials from the British Embassy in France meet British nationals and organisations on a regular basis in meetings and events in Paris and around France. Since the referendum, the implication of the UK leaving the EU has been discussed frequently. We do not, therefore, hold an exhaustive list of the groups with whom we have engaged. We can, however, provide some examples. We have had regular contact with the British Community Committee, which acts as an umbrella organisation. We have also met regional organisations such as Association Integration Kreiz Breizh in Brittany, the Anglo-American Group of Provence, Franco-British International Business Association in Lyon and British Associations in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur. There are meetings planned in the coming weeks with British community representatives in Alsace and Aquitaine and the AGM of the British Community Committee will take place at the Ambassador's Residence. We also have regular contacts with the Franco-British Chamber of Commerce who act as a focal point for British businesses operating in France. We are not aware of a specific British community organisation in Strasbourg.

Yours sincerely,

France Desk
External Western and Southern Europe



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