



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Near East Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

01 December 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – REQUEST REF 1016-16

Thank you for your email of 3 November, asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked for:

** Please provide copies of all correspondence, including emails, and minutes of phone calls, between July 1, 2015 to present, involving officials on the Middle East and North Africa desk (MENA) in relation to David Davis and/or Adam Holloway's trip to Syria to meet President Bashar al-Assad on April 6-11, 2016.*

** If not included, please provide copies of all briefings to ministers and reports relating to the trip.*

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 holds some information related to the first part of your request for the period from July 1, 2015 to present and we have located two references relevant to your request, reproduced below in full:

1. *..And in April it came to light that David Davis MP and other British Parliamentarians met with Asad in Damascus although broader details of the visit (including who joined David Davis) have not been disclosed*
2. *..David Davis MP (now SoS DexEU) travelled to Damascus in April 2016 with Adam Holloway MP and they met with Asad. Noteworthy that Asad and co did little to promote the visit – it was only Mr Davis himself who went to the media..*

We do not hold any information relevant to the second part of your request.

Yours sincerely,

Near East Department



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.