



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**Human Resources Directorate**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
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25 July 2017

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0628-17**

Thank you for your email of 28 June 2017 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

- 1. What was the department's total spending on recruitment during the financial year 2016/2017?*
- 2. How many vacancies for positions in the department were advertised in the same period?*
- 3. How many of these vacancies for positions were filled? How many were not filled?*
- 4. Which position took the longest time to fill, and how long did this position take to fill?*
- 5. Which position took the shortest time to fill, and how long did this position take to fill?*
- 6. What was the average time to fill vacancies for positions in the department during the financial year 2016/17?*

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.

1. What was the department's total spending on recruitment during the financial year 2016/2017?

Total spending on recruitment during the financial year 2016/2017 was £545,906.58.

This includes £330,927.29 for Diplomatic Service (DS) Fast Stream recruitment costs. The Civil Service Fast Stream team, part of [Civil Service Resourcing](#), coordinates the early stages of the recruitment process for the DS Fast Stream graduate scheme. The FCO, with support from Civil Service Fast Stream team, coordinate the final stage of the process, known as the Final Selection Board (FSB). In 2016/17 we made provisional offers to 60 Fast Stream candidates.

2. How many vacancies for positions in the department were advertised in the same period?

134 positions were advertised during the financial year 2016/2017

3. How many of these vacancies for positions were filled? How many were not filled?

128 were filled and six were unfilled.

4. Which position took the longest time to fill, and how long did this position take to fill?

The longest to fill was the Graduate Interns volume campaign, which took 81 days.

5. Which position took the shortest time to fill, and how long did this position take to fill?

There were two roles which took 46 days to fill: Head of IT Delivery and Head of Data Science.

6. What was the average time to fill vacancies for positions in the department during the financial year 2016/17?

The average time to fill a vacancy was 56 days

Yours sincerely,

Human Resources Directorate



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.