



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Finance Directorate
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

16 February 2018

Thank you for your email of 22 January 2018 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Hope you're well. I'd like to submit the following FOI request please:

- *The outstanding balances on any government credit cards relating to the department from the 2015/16 financial year to date*
- *The number of incidents of staff misusing such credit cards during the same time period.*
- *How much interest is being charged on outstanding balances.*

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.

- The outstanding balances on any government credit cards relating to the department from the 2015/16 financial year to date

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) outstanding balances on government credit cards as at 31st March for financial years 2015/16, 2016/17 and at 31 December for financial year 2017/18 were as follows:

2015/16 - £0
2016/17 - £0
31 December 2017 - £0.

- The number of incidents of staff misusing such credit cards during the same time period.

Five instances of cardholder misuse have been recorded since FY15/16

- How much interest is being charged on outstanding balances.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) incurred £124,970.08 between 10 March 2015 and 4 March 2016 for late payment of credit card statements. The FCO has a policy that in all

cases of material financial loss, such as this, there is an internal independent investigation as to whether disciplinary action is required. We can confirm that an independent investigation took place and that appropriate action was taken. No interest has been incurred on outstanding balances since 4 March 2016.

Yours sincerely,

Business Planning Team
Finance Directorate



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