



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**FCO Services**  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

09 May 2019

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: FoI 0347-19**

Thank you for your email of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*I'd like to make a request under the Freedom of Information act for all transactions over £25,000 from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Services from September 2016 to January 2017.*

*Please provide the data in a machine readable format (preferably csv). As a minimum, please make sure to include the date, value and recipient of each transaction. Please also provide details on the procurement category of each transaction if you have it.*

*Your team may also be interested in the guidance on producing spending data:*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-publishing-spend-over-25000>.

*For the avoidance of doubt, I am making this request under the Freedom of Information Act. I await your response within 20 working days.*

I can confirm that FCO Services does hold information relevant to your request.

The information you have requested relating to Spend Data for the period of September 2016 - January 2017 is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as it is information already accessible by other means.

Further information about Section 21 can be found later in this letter.

The information you require can be found on the FCO Services website. I have included a link here:

<https://www.fcoservices.gov.uk/our-organisation/information-and-guidance/transparency-data/expenditure-data-archive/>

In addition to the information on the web site the publication of our transparency data from 2018 onward is published here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fco-services-departmental-spending-over-25000>

## Section 21 States.

(1) Information which is reasonably accessible to the applicant otherwise than under section 1 is exempt information.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)

(a) information may be reasonably accessible to the applicant even though it is accessible only on payment, and

(b) information is to be taken to be reasonably accessible to the applicant if it is information which the public authority or any other person is obliged by or under any enactment to communicate (otherwise than by making the information available for inspection) to members of the public on request, whether free of charge or on payment.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1), information which is held by a public authority and does not fall within subsection (2)(b) is not to be regarded as reasonably accessible to the applicant merely because the information is available from the public authority itself on request, unless the information is made available in accordance with the authority's publication scheme and any payment required is specified in, or determined in accordance with, the scheme.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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If you would like a review of our decision, or if you wish to make a complaint, please write to the Central FOI Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

You can apply directly to the Information Commissioner. However, the Information Commissioner will not normally make a decision unless you have first exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Officer

FCO Services



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