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20 August 2008

Reference: **FOI 625-08**

Room 2/131
Human Resources Directorate
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Mr Kevin Mason

(by email: request-1458-1eacb5b@whatdotheyknow.com)

Dear Mr Mason

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST: 625-08

Thank you for your request dated 26 July 2008, under the Freedom of Information Act. You asked that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) should disclose 'how many people of dual British and Israeli nationality work for the organisation.'

This information is not held centrally. To provide you with a fully accurate response to your question, we would need to search all of the vetting files held on people working for the FCO. We, therefore, estimate that to locate, retrieve and extract such information would exceed the appropriate limit of £600 or 3.5 days. This limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provisions for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. We will not, therefore, be processing your request as written further. I'm afraid that it is difficult to advise you about how to refine the scope of your request so that we would be able to provide you with the information you are looking for. However, if you would like to call to discuss further, I would be happy to assist if possible.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt.

If you are unhappy with the way the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. You should contact me within 40 working days at the address above (jane.sigsworth@fco.gov.uk) if you wish to complain.



If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours

Jane

Jane Sigsworth
Open Government Liaison Officer
Human Resources Directorate