



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

19 June 2008

Our ref: 0483-08

Kevin Wells
By e-mail to
Request-709-9b788d8d@whatdotheyknow.com

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I am writing regarding your request for information, which I received on 13 June. In that request, you asked us for details of how the British Embassies celebrated St. George's Day.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) holds information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

If you were to make a new request for a narrower category of information, it may be that we could comply with that request within the appropriate limit, although I cannot guarantee that this will be the case, and it may help if I outline some possible ways of narrowing your request. You may wish to refine your request to particular Embassies or to the flying of the flag of St. George in certain geographical areas. Any reformulated request the department receives from you will be treated as a fresh Freedom of Information request.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to me within 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have 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.

Brian Dorrington
Information Rights Team



Data Protection Act 1998

The FCO processes personal data as notified to the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk) for the purpose of working for the UK's interests in a safe, just and prosperous world. Such personal data may be shared with other UK Government Departments and public authorities.