



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

Information Rights Unit  
WH 2.177  
King Charles Street  
London  
SW1A 2AH

Email: [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/fcdo](http://www.gov.uk/fcdo)

Kacey Montagu  
request-690839-  
9d209a3b@whatdotheyknow.com

7 October 2020

Dear Kacey Montagu

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: FOI2020/19039**

Thank you for your email of 10th September asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*Under FOI please give me an excel (NOT as a pdf) list of all FOI requests you have had since it became law. for each FOI request, please list:*

*date of request*

*date of reply*

*reference number/ID*

*subject/title of the request [each request on the list should include the subject/title of the request please] status [whether information was fully released, partially released or withheld]*

*If appropriate, please provide it for Including the Foreign Office and the International Development Office before the merger.*

I can confirm that the FCDO does hold information relevant to your request.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. For central government the appropriate limit is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. The FCDO, FCO and DFID combined have received approximately 24000 FOI requests over the period set out in your request. I estimate that it will take more than 3 ½ working days to locate, retrieve and extract this information. In these circumstances we are not obliged under the Act to

comply with your request. You may therefore wish to refine your request to narrow its scope to bring it within the appropriate limit. We recommend that you refine your request to a specific department within the FCDO and reduce the timeframe to a single year. You may also consider limiting the categories of information you are requesting.

The annual FOI statistics produced by the Cabinet Office may also be of interest. They can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-foi-statistics#2019>.

Please note that any new request will be given a separate reference number and we will then consider whether we can provide the information requested within the appropriate cost limit. This would of course be subject to the consideration of whether any of the other exemptions under the FOI Act apply.

If you would like to request a review of our decision, or if you wish to make a complaint, please write to the Information Rights Unit at Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, or by e-mail to [information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk](mailto:information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk). Please note that you have 40 working days from the date of this letter in which to submit a request for an internal review.

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 FCDO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF, or online at <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Yours sincerely,

## **Information Rights Unit**

For information about how the FCDO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)