



HM Passport Office

Freedom of Information Team
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Jan Cosgrove
request-630280-21206e7a@whatdotheyknow.com

Reference: FOICR 57016/19

16 January 2020

Dear Ms Cosgrove

Thank you for your email of 23 December 2019 in which you ask for information on the cost of issuing free UK passports.

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Could you provide an estimate, based on current at-cost sums, of:

- a. issuing a free UK passport to every entitled citizen, as at the date of this request**
- b. issuing a free UK passport at the current rates of renewal/first time passports for a single year**

I confirm that HM Passport Office holds the information which you have requested. However, we believe that the information is already reasonably accessible to you. It can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/home-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2018-to-2019>

Section 21(1) of the FOIA exempts HM Passport Office from having to provide you with this information, because it is already reasonably accessible to you. If you have any difficulties in accessing this information at the source which I have indicated, please contact me again.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference 57016/20. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

c. as a) and b) but also adding a swipe-style card with photo in each case.

HM Passport Office have not undertaken any analysis into what the cost of providing a swipe style card with a photo attached would be for customers and I can confirm we currently do not have plans to do so.

Yours sincerely

C Parsons
Freedom of Information Team