

Counter Proliferation & Arms Control Centre

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

King Charles Street

London SW1A 2AH

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



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Mr Smith

request-639000-950a2335@whatdotheyknow.com

1 April 2020

Dear Mr Smith,

INTERNAL REVIEW OF FOI REQUEST REF: 2020/00126

Thank you for your email of 18 March 2020 asking for an internal review of the decision conveyed to you in our letter dated 12 March.

In our original response we stated 'The FCO can neither confirm nor deny that it holds information relevant to your request, as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, does not apply by virtue of Section 24(2) of the Act. To the extent that Section 24(2) of the Act applies, we have determined that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exclusion of the duty to confirm or deny outweighs the public interest in confirming whether the FCO holds the information, and that to give a statement of the reasons for this would involve the disclosure of information which would itself be exempt information. Therefore, under Section 17(4) of the Act, the FCO is not obliged to give such a statement. However, this should not be taken as evidence that any information that would meet your request exists or does not exist.'

After careful consideration of the original handling of the request, the internal review has upheld the original decision.

If you feel we have applied the exemptions incorrectly and you wish to make a complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane

Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Counter Proliferation & Arms Control Centre



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 2018. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.