



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**Central FOI Unit**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

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

Dr Emma L Briant

By Email: [request-608535-d0cb7eb5@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-608535-d0cb7eb5@whatdotheyknow.com)

10 December 2019

Dear Dr Emma L Briant

**Your Freedom Of Information Request: 1122-19**

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 12 November. In your request you asked for:

*Based on your helpful guidance for what might be narrow enough, please could I ask only for information relevant to the original request (relating to Counter-Da'esh Foreign Ministerial visit to Washington, DC on 21 - 25 March 2017) and held by the British Embassy in Washington.*

*Please could I therefore ask you to look for just the minister's schedule or diary pages for what meetings occurred on those days?*

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office does hold information falling within the terms of your request. I apologise that it is taking longer than expected to provide you with a substantive reply.

The FOI Act obliges us to respond to requests promptly, and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days, and a full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case. We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider where the public interest lies in respect of a request for exempt information. In this case, however, we have not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies.

In your case we estimate that it will take an additional 20 days to take a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies and the need to clear it through several stakeholders. Therefore, we will try to ensure you have a response by **10 January 2020**. We will keep you informed of any changes to this.

The specific exemption which applies in relation to your request is: Section 27 – international relations.

If you are unhappy with the service you are receiving and wish to make a complaint, please write to the Central FOI Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: [foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk). You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

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 FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Central FOI Unit



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