



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Information Rights Unit

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Stephen Delahunty
request-736997-e96f7482@whatdotheyknow.com

15 April 2021

Dear Mr Delahunty,

Freedom of Information Request FOI2021/06809

I am writing to confirm that we are not yet in a position to respond to your Freedom of Information request of 15 March 2021.

I can confirm that the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office holds information relevant to your request.

We are obliged under the Freedom of Information Act to respond to requests promptly and, in any case, no later than 20 working days after receiving a request. But, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test is engaged, we are allowed to extend this timescale to allow us to consider where the public interest lies. We do try to do this within the 20 working days but, in your case, I'm afraid, we've not yet reached a decision on where the balance of the public interest lies. I estimate that we will be in a position to let you have a response by 13 May 2021. The specific exemption which applies to your request is section Section 42(1) (legal professional privilege).

If you are unhappy with the service we are providing and wish to make a complaint, you should write to the Information Rights Team at the following e-mail information.rights@fcdo.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

Louise Cuthbert
Information Rights Unit