



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Near East Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

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

Avril Wooster
request-384004-a2e1b248@whatdotheyknow.com

15 February 2017

Dear Avril Wooster

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0093-17

Thank you for your email of 24 January asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Dear Foreign and Commonwealth Office,

Please supply the following.

Who attended the Paris Peace Conference and in what capacity and from which department?

Minutes taken at the Conference and what was reported back and to whom?

All Emails and phone calls logged in prior discussions on who should go and in what capacity and why no senior member of the Government attending?

Was Israel or Palestine consulted prior to Conference, if so who and what position held?

Who made the decisions, names and position held, regarding who should attend?

Do not refer me to the French website as I have already looked it up and cannot find anything referring to this Conference. I would like the answers from yourselves please.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed a sample search for the information which you requested. I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

However 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. Your request as presently formulated is widely-framed and 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. This could include specifying a time frame to narrow the range of the search.

I hope you are satisfied with this reply. However, if you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the FOI and DPA Team, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room K4.04, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: foi-dpa.imd@fco.gov.uk. You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have 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,

Near East Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.