



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

**South Asia Department**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

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

Chris Cook  
request-490143-8fab1b46@whatdotheyknow.com

23 July 2018

Dear Mr Cook

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: FOI 0670-18**

Thank you for your email of 22 June 2018 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*Dear Foreign and Commonwealth Office,*

*Please could you send me any correspondence with the House of Commons - either the Commission, the Liaison Committee, members of the House Service - relating to trips abroad by Keith Vaz in his capacity as a member of the Home Affairs Select Committee.*

*It strikes me that there are several ways that this could be achieved - and I am happy to take your advice on how to make this manageable.*

*I would note that the sessional records show he was present for the following trips:*

*2.10.2008      India and Bangladesh*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request.

Please see attached for the information that the FCO can release to you.

Some of the information you have requested, is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that

personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) in the [FOI releases](#) section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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If you would like a review of our decision, or if you 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.pmc@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.pmc@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,

South Asia Department

