



Home Office

Identity & Passport Service

Headquarters
Identity and Passport Service
Parliamentary & Correspondence
Management Team
4th Floor, Peel Building, SE
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Mr Mark Scott

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.XXX

Reference: FOICR 20280/11

Tel (020) 7752 7362
Fax (0870) 336 9175
Email hqenquiries@ips.gsi.gov.uk
Web www.homeoffice.gov.uk/ips

8 November 2011

Dear Mr Scott

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your e-mail of 11 October, in which you ask for information about the types of passports issued by the Identity and Passport Service (IPS). Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I confirm that IPS holds the information you request.

You asked:-

Could you please confirm what the P referred to as passport type stands for, This is on the photo page at the top and states passport "type". Can you also confirm that there are other passport types with different letters and what these refer to.

The IPS response is:-

Document codes are specified in the document 'ICAO 9303 Part 1, Volume 1'. We believe that the information you have requested is already reasonably accessible to you. It can be found on the International Civil Aviation Organisation website on the following link <http://www2.icao.int/en/mrtd/Pages/default.aspx>

Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act exempts IPS from having to provide you with this information, because it is already in the public domain. However, for ease of reference I can inform you that within British passports, the capital letter 'P' is designated to denote that the document type is a 'Machine Readable Passport'. This letter will be dependant upon the document type being issued. Other codes include, but are not limited to:

- V - to denote Visa
- C or I - to denote ID Card.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference FOICR 290280/11. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team
Home Office
Ground Floor, Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF
e-mail: FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

H Reid
Parliamentary and Correspondence Management Team