

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

Website: https://www.gov.uk

Claire Wilde request-584567-8d96d3aa@whatdotheyknow.com

27 August 2019

Dear Ms Wilde,

Your Freedom Of Information Request: 0606-19

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 2 July 2019. In your request you asked;

I was looking for information on all the department's ministers, but would be content to limit the scope of my request in a different way.

Instead of asking for eight pieces of information about each trip, I would be content to receive:

Name of minister
Full address of destination
Start date of trip
Purpose of trip

If it is helpful, I can also clarify what I mean by ministerial trip within the UK: I mean an engagement while on ministerial duties to any location except central Government or Parliamentary premises, regardless of the length of time of the trip

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office does hold information falling within the terms of your request.

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 Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by 24 September 2019. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion, we will keep you informed.

The specific exemption which applies in relation to your request is:

Section 38 – health and safety

Please write to the Central FOI Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Room WH2.177, King Charles Street, London, SW1A 2AH. E-mail: <a href="mailto:foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk">foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk</a> if you have any queries about this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Central FOI Unit Parliamentary, Ministerial and Central Services



For information about how the FCO handles personal information please see our <u>Personal Information Charter</u>