



15 June 2009

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I am writing regarding your request for information, which the FCO received on 12 May 2009. In that request, you asked us for details of:

1. *The amount spent on hiring Private Security Companies separately in (a) **Iraq** and (b) **Afghanistan** in each of the years 2007 and 2008, and up to May 10 during this year*
2. *The names of the individual companies and the amounts paid to each*
3. *The services rendered in each case (eg. 'Guarding consulate/embassy' etc).*
4. *Have these companies been hired on any occasions for the protection of either the Foreign Minister or the Prime Minister during visits to Iraq or Afghanistan, and if so, what has been the cost on these individual occasions and what companies were involved?*

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

The information we have regarding the value of FCO contracts with Private Security Companies in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2007 to date is as follows:

Iraq

Value (£)	Purpose	Company	Notes
21,949,907	Close protection Mobile security	Control Risks	Jul 06 – Jun 07
20,252,435	Close protection Mobile security	Control Risks	Jul 07 – Jun 08
20,800,843	Close protection Mobile security	Control Risks	Jul 08 – Jun 09
6,903,489	Guarding Embassy	GardaWorld	Jul 06 – Jun 07
5,266,067	Guarding Embassy	GardaWorld	Jul 07 – Jun 08
5,715,764	Guarding Embassy	GardaWorld	Jul 08 – Jun 09
486,577	Intelligence Advisers	Minimal Risks	Sep 07 – Sep 08
467,930	Intelligence Advisers	Minimal Risks	Sep 08 – Sep 09

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4,992,364	Field Training Coordinators	Armorgroup	Jan 07 – Dec 07
614,699	Field Training Coordinators	Armorgroup	Jan 08 – Mar 08
577,973 ¹	Overseas Security Managers	Minimal Risks	Apr 06 - Mar 07
936,074 ¹	Overseas Security Managers	Minimal Risks	Apr 07 - Mar 08
1,244,772 ¹	Overseas Security Managers	Minimal Risks	Apr 08 - Mar 09
629,127 ¹	Vehicle Maintenance	Armorgroup	Feb 08 – Feb 09
706,245 ¹	Vehicle Maintenance	Armorgroup	Feb 09 – Feb 10

Afghanistan

Value (£)	Purpose	Company	Notes
19,536,267	Mobile and Static Security	Armorgroup	Jan 07 – Dec 07
20,321,543	Mobile and Static Security	Armorgroup	Jan 08 – Dec 08
20,174,588	Mobile and Static Security	Armorgroup	Jan 09 – Dec 09
387,935	Minimal Risks	Intelligence Analysts	Nov 08 – Nov 09 (first year)
See Iraq above	Vehicle Maintenance	Armorgroup	Feb 08 – Feb 09
See Iraq above	Vehicle Maintenance	Armorgroup	Feb 09 – Feb 10
701,940	Police Mentors and Advisers	Armorgroup	Jan 07 – Dec 07
845,697	Police Mentors and Advisers	Armorgroup	Jan 08 – Dec 08
157,110	Police Mentors and Advisers	Armorgroup	Jan 09 – Mar 09 (end)
361,140	Healthcare	Edinburgh International	Jan 08 – Dec 08
379,543	Healthcare	Edinburgh International	Jan 09 – Dec 09

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The above figures represent contract values as originally let or based on figures stated in subsequent variations to the aforementioned contracts. ¹ Joint Iraq/Afghan contract.

The FCO does not have specific information on the security arrangements or costs for the protection of Government Ministers whilst they visit Iraq or Afghanistan.