



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

19 June 2009

## YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request, which we received on 21 May 2009. In that request you asked for;

1. *Corporate Management Structure*
2. *ICT Strategy 0910*
3. *ICT Structure*
4. *ICT Business Plan 0910*

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

Please note that the ICT information as requested, within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) falls under the remit of Information & Technology Directorate (I&TD)

Under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. The information you requested regarding our Corporate Management Structure (point 1) is available on the FCO Website <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/> on the how we are organised-structure page <http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/how-we-are-organised/structure/>

In response to points 2 of your request, the ICT strategy is currently under review and will be complete by September 2009. In the meantime please find attached the current FCO ICT (I&TD) Strategy. Please note that we do not as a matter of course, re-issue the strategy every year.

The ICT structure (point 3) (Information and Technology Directorate organogram attached) contains the names and job titles for senior officials only. Junior officials have not been included as it is our view that disclosure of this information would breach the first data protection principle, which states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. 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.

In response to point 4, we do not hold a copy of The FCO ICT (I&TD) Business Plan as it is currently in development and is due to be finalised in July 2009. The I&TD Business Plan has been delayed for this year to allow for other business plans, which feed into the I&TD one to complete.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other reuse, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder. Most documents supplied by The Foreign and Commonwealth Office will have been produced by government officials and will be Crown Copyright.

You can find details on the arrangements for re-using Crown Copyright on <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/crown-copyright/copyright-guidance/copyright-and-publishing.htm>

Information you receive which is not subject to Crown Copyright continues to be protected by the copyright of the person, or organisation, from which the information originated. You must ensure that you gain their permission before reproducing any third party (non Crown copyright) information.