



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

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

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

[REDACTED]

.....  
19 August 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0713-19**

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

*In March 2018 Boris Johnson announced the construction of a UN compliant, 112-bed wing at maximum security, Kiri Kiri prison in Lagos, Nigeria. Please provide the following information regarding this project:*

- a. All documentation detailing the authorisation of the construction of the UK-funded wing of the Kirikiri prison.*
- b. All documentation detailing the progress of the construction of the UK-funded wing of the Kirikiri prison.*
- c. Dates of expected opening.*
- d. All documentation detailing British oversight of the prison and of inmate safety.*

I can confirm that the FCO does hold information relevant to your request.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. For central government the appropriate limit is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 3 ½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating,

retrieving and extracting it. Under these circumstances, we are not obliged under the Act to comply with your request.

You may therefore wish to refine your request to narrow its scope to bring it within the appropriate limit. You could consider introducing a time frame, reducing the number of asks in your request or clarifying the specific information you are looking for so that we can carry out a more targeted search.

You may also find it helpful to know that while the UK remains as committed as ever to maintaining and strengthening our bilateral relationship with Nigeria, after careful consideration the UK has decided not to proceed with the proposed construction project at Kiri Kiri (Lagos) prison. In close coordination with our Nigerian partners, we are focused on supporting a wide programme of other reforms and improvements in Nigeria's criminal justice system. This decision has been taken primarily due to the challenges associated with design and cost.

Please note that any new request will be given a separate reference number and we will then consider whether we can provide the information requested within the appropriate cost limit. This would of course be subject to the consideration of whether any of the other exemptions under the FOI Act apply.

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.pmcs@fco.gov.uk](mailto:foi-dpa.pmcs@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.

You can find responses to other FOI requests on the FCO's [website](#).

Yours sincerely,

Central FOI Unit



For information about how the FCO handles personal information please see our [Personal Information Charter](#)