

Response (for the request, please see below)
1 April 2009

INFO 09/28

I am writing to confirm that the Gambling Commission (the Commission) has now completed its search for the information you requested on 24 February 2009 and a copy of the information which can be disclosed is attached.

As previously agreed, the remainder of the information that falls within the terms of your request will not be provided as we either consider this exempt from the right of access under the Act (section 40; 'Personal information') or providing it will exceed the statutory limit. As the national regulator of an international industry, the Commission's employees have reasonable cause to travel abroad occasionally and consequently we do not distinguish between national and overseas travel in our information recording systems. The information we have provided to you is from a range of information and is accurate and complete to the best of our knowledge.

Request

I would like to submit a formal request for information under the Freedom of Information Act.

I would like details of overseas trips by Gambling Commission staff in the following periods: 2005/6, 2006/7, 2007/8 & 1 April 2008 to 24 February 2009.

I would like the information to be broken down per year; to show how much was "spent" on each trip, who went, when, and where to. The purpose of the visit is also to be specified.

"Spent" is understood to include the costs of travel, accommodation, hospitality and general expenditure.

For example

2005/6

1-3 May 2005

Paris

Trip to visit new casino

Gambling Commission staff on trip: director John Smith and project manager Ian White

Total cost: £2,000

2006/7

Etc...

It may be we can negotiate the scope of the request if necessary – I am happy to refine the request to make it more manageable, if necessary. Please call to discuss if you envisage any problems.

I would also be grateful if you could inform me whether you think the request can be researched with the £450 "free of charge" period envisaged by the Lord Chancellor

As you may know he believes this amount to about 2.5-3 days' work. I look forward to hearing from you soon, but in any event within 20 working days.