



Home Office

# Identity & Passport Service

Xx Xxxxxx  
XXXXXXXX

Reference: FOICR 22204/12

20 April 2012

Dear Xxxxxxx

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your e-mail of 27 March to the Identity and Passport Service (IPS) in which you ask for information on the cost of a British passport. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am able to disclose the following information.

### You asked:-

**I would like clarification on what I consider the extortionate charge to renew a UK Citizen Full Adult Passport, which is currently £77.50.**

### I would like to know:

#### 1. How much time is spent by IPS on processing a renewal.

The average time taken for standard passport renewal applications is 15 days for applications via post and 10 days when applying through the Check and Send service. Processing times fluctuate in line with seasonal volumes - currently processing times are approximately 8 working days. Please bear in mind that processing any passport application is much more than just printing the applicants details in a passport book; within the process are checks that aim to identify any applications that may be fraudulent - IPS takes very seriously its responsibility to protect the integrity of the product and the UK passport has many features in it that are leading edge, making it one of the most secure passports in the world.

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## 2. How much does it actually cost IPS to process and issue a passport renewal, specifically broken down by section, i.e. printing cost, postage, staff time etc.

IPS is required to generate enough income from passport fees to cover no more than the cost of issuing passports plus a contribution towards the cost of emergency consular assistance to British passport holders when travelling overseas.

The current adult passport renewal fee is £77.50 and is broken down into the following elements that make up the fee:

<b>Adult Passport Fee - Cost Breakdown</b>	
Application Processing (includes operational staff)	£31.60
FCO Consular Premium	£15.62
Production & Personalisation of Book (including printing)	£10.79
Delivery (including postage)	£3.30
Overhead/Administration	£16.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>£77.50</b>

In keeping with the Freedom of Information Act, we assume that all information can be released to the public unless it is exempt. In line with normal practice we are therefore releasing the information which you requested via the Home Office website.

I hope that this information meets your requirements. I would like to assure you that we have provided you with all relevant information that IPS holds.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to the address below, quoting reference FOICR 22204/12. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

Information Access Team  
Home Office  
Ground Floor, Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF  
e-mail: [FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FOIRequests@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request will be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely

**Xx Xxx**  
**Parliamentary & Correspondence Management Team**