

Note No. A459/13

Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations in London and has the honour to inform them of changes to entry procedures for vehicles arriving at the Ambassadors entrance to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on Horseguards Road.

Following a review of security at Downing Street additional security checks have been introduced for all vehicles arriving at the entrance on Horseguards Road which also provides access to the Ambassadors entrance to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

With immediate effect all vehicles arriving at this entrance will be subject to a security search conducted by officers of the Diplomatic Protection Group of the Metropolitan Police. Where this search involves a vehicle with diplomatic status the search will be confined to the exterior of the vehicle. The driver will be expected to provide assurance that the interior of the vehicle is secure.

The search procedure should be a quick process which should not significantly delay the entry of a vehicle. Missions are asked to cooperate and allow sufficient time to allow this procedure to take place.

Protocol Directorate avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations in London the assurance of its highest consideration.

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19 December 2013

