



**Joint Capability  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
4-F-35, Main Building  
Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB**

Telephone: 0207 218 9000

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M. Sykes  
c/o whatdotheyknow.com

Reference: PW - 02 -08-2010-120600-005

Date: 7 September 2010

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Dear Ms Sykes,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – CASE No PW – 02 -08-2010-120600-005**

Thank you for your e-mail to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) Dated 2 August 2010, which was considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 / Environmental Regulations 2004. As indicated on 31 August, your request was received by this desk on 31 August. Your request in full read:

As of 1 July 2010, please advise the number of Armed Forces uniformed translators/interpreters in the following languages:-

1. Dari
2. Pashto
3. Uzbeki
4. Turkmeni
5. Balochi
6. Nuristani
7. Pashai

Serving in Afghanistan.

I can confirm that MOD holds the information you have requested.

Military personnel who have been trained to higher levels of language proficiency provide trusted translation and consecutive interpreting capability. On 1 July 2010, the following numbers of uniformed Armed Forces personnel with high level language skills were deployed in Afghanistan. Skills are deemed current if the qualification is less than 3 years old.

- |              |    |
|--------------|----|
| 1. Pashto    | 60 |
| 2. Dari      | 30 |
| 3. Uzbeki    | 0  |
| 4. Turkmeni  | 0  |
| 5. Balochi   | 0  |
| 6. Nuristani | 0  |
| 7. Pashai    | 0  |

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If you are unhappy with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Head of Corporate Information, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-foi-ir@mod.uk](mailto:CIO-foi-ir@mod.uk)). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you are still unhappy following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>.

Yours faithfully,

*(Signed on original)*

C M ADAMSON  
JtCap-JW7