**Ministry of Defence**

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Assistant Head Information Rights team

Ref: FOI2019/07047

| Telephone: | 020 7218 4848 |
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| E-mail: | CIO-FOI@mod.gov.uk |

Eli Hayes

8th July 2019

By email to:
request-577614-74ab251a@whatdotheyknow.com
request-577615-7e3ff938@whatdotheyknow.com
request-577616-72a76e7c@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Hayes,

1.  Thank you for your email of 17 June 2019 requesting the following information:

*"I am requesting a document containing a record of all FOIA requests since 2014 where the British Army, Royal Navy or Royal Air Force are/ or were the lead branch. This document should contain the title of the request, a brief description, whether any information was released or not and the service that was lead branch".*

2.  I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

**Information in scope**

3.  A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

4.  The information you have requested can be found in Annexes A-F attached to this response. Some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at sections 40 (Personal Data) and 23 (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) of the FOIA and has been redacted.

5.  Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018.

6.  Section 23(1) has been applied where the request makes direct reference to one of the security bodies listed at section 23(3) of the Act. Section 23 states:

*(1) Information held by a public authority is exempt information if it was directly or indirectly supplied to the public authority by, or relates to, any of the bodies specified in subsection (3).*

7.   Sections 23(1) and 40(2) are absolute exemptions and as such there is no requirement to consider the public interest in deciding to withhold the information.

## Section 16 (Advice and Assistance)

8.   Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the "Case Title" field of our database is completed by MOD staff and is used to provide a brief description of the request. We have therefore considered that this field, in the majority of cases, meets the department's Section 1 obligation under the Act for both the title and the brief description aspects of your request.

9.   However, where the field was unclear, originally blank, or redaction of personal data would have left the field with no information, we have extracted a brief description from the full correspondence in order to meet the scope of your request.

10. In respect of the part of your request which asked "*whether any information was released or not* " for clarity I have provided a full description of the "Reported Outcomes" in the following table:

| | |
|---|---|
| Appropriate Limit | Request refused as it exceeded the appropriate cost limit at section 12 (see https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1199/costs_of_compliance_exceeds_appropriate_limit.pdf for further guidance on section 12) |
| Clarification Needed | Request refused as further information is required in order to understand the scope of the request or where the requester has not provided a full name |
| Granted In Full | All information held within the scope of the request was released |
| Information Not Held | No recorded information held within scope of the request |
| Repeated Request | The request is identical to a previous request, received from the same person within a short timeframe, we previously provided an answer and that answer was unlikely to have changed |
| Vexatious | Request refused under section 14(1) as the request was either too burdensome or was deemed to be lacking in purpose (see https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1198/dealing-with-vexatious-requests.pdf for further guidance on section 14) |
| Withheld In Full | The information within scope was either withheld under an exemption or we neither confirmed nor denied whether we held any information within scope |
| Withheld In Part | Some information released but some of the information within scope was either withheld under an exemption or we neither confirmed nor denied whether we held some of the information within scope |
| Blank | Cases which we have "Admin Closed" because the request was answered as Business As Usual/Treat Official correspondence, the request was entered in error e.g. a duplicated entry, the requester withdrew the request or cases where we have no record of a response being issued |

11. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Daly