



Ministry
of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Ref. 2017/12050

Request-448737-d06a595d5@whatdotheyknow.com

21 December 2017

Dear Mr Harwood,

Thank you for your email of 26 November 2017 requesting the following information:

I request that you provide information relating to all complaints filed against your organisation from all volunteers regarding bullying against them.

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

I am writing to advise you that to confirm whether or not the information requested is held would itself exceed the appropriate limit. This is because to locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request has been calculated to take at least some 6 man days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. For instance, complaints filed against HQ RAF Air Cadets from all volunteers regarding bullying against them by HQ RAF Air Cadets staff in the period 1 April 2012 to 1 April 2017. However, you may wish to note that this information may still be subject to the exemptions under the FOIA. Please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

If you are not satisfied with this response or 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 Information Rights Compliance Team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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 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,

[Original signed]

Air Command Secretariat