



**Navy Command FOI Section  
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2017-09144

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Mr J Taylor  
request-433397-3fedc866@whatdotheyknow.com

20 October 2017

Dear Mr Taylor,

Request for Information – Need for Additional Time to Reply

Thank you for your correspondence of 22 September 2017 requesting the following information:

*Please provide a copy of any complaints made by the Royal Navy since 1 June 2017 to The Times newspaper.*

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

This letter is to inform you that the MOD holds information related to your request, but that we believe the information falls within the scope of the following qualified exemption: Section 36 (Prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs). As such it is necessary for us to decide whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Under s36(2)(c), information is exempt if, in the reasonable opinion of a qualified person, disclosure would otherwise prejudice, or would be likely otherwise to prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs.

The Freedom of Information Act requires us to respond to requests promptly and in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information and the public interest test has to be conducted, the Act allows the time for response to be longer than 20 working days. A full response must be provided within such time as is reasonable in all circumstances of the case and, in relation to your request, we plan to let you have a response by 24 November 2017. If it appears that it will take longer than this to reach a conclusion we will let you know.

If you are not satisfied 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 Information Rights Compliance Team, Ground Floor, Zone D, 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 remain dissatisfied 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.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section