



Ministry of Defence

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Mr Dawson

Request-16695-aaf5f3b4@whatdotheyknow.com

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
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25 July 2013

Ref. 01-07-2013-112009-009-Dawson-U

Dear Mr Dawson,

Request for Information: MOD's liability due to contamination of MOD's alienated sites.

Thank you for your request of 1 July 2013. This was passed to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) – the Ministry of Defence (MOD) organisation with responsibility for the defence estate – and has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

You asked for the following information:

A: The MOD's estimate for the liability due to contamination of the MOD estate.

B: The liability due to radium contamination of the MOD estate.

Could you also provide information about level of uncertainty for the figures provided at A and B

I have determined that MOD holds information that could be within the scope of your request, much of which is not held centrally. Section 12 of the FOI Act states that a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the 'appropriate limit'. This limit is £600 and equates to 24 hours worth of effort on our part (calculated at £25/hour), roughly three and a half working days. It goes on to say that the public authority must provide advice and assistance to help the applicant refine the request so that information can be provided within the 'appropriate limit'.

It has been assessed that the costs involved in providing the information you have requested will exceed the £600 limit. Under the terms of Section 12 of the Act we are not obliged to comply with your request. If you would like to refine your request, you may wish to limit your request to correspondence or documents related to a specific site. Please let me know if you would like to refine your request along these lines.

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 Head of Corporate Information, 2nd 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 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, www.ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. W. [unclear]', written in a cursive style.