



Ministry of Defence

Our Ref: FOI2014/05143

Ministry of Defence
Main Building (01/B/20)
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Telephone [MOD]: +44 (0)20 7218 9000

Facsimile [MOD]: +44 (0)20 7218 7474

E-mail:

DDC-SecretariatParliamentary@mod.uk

Mr Harry Raffal
[request-229360-](#)
[@xx](#)

13 October 2014

Dear Mr Raffal

Thank you for your email of 12 September 2014 requesting the following information:

“Could you please provide any relevant documents, records or correspondences which relate to the creation of the MOD’s website. If there are documents, records or correspondences relating to the subsequent development of the MOD’s website which also include reference to any or all of the British Army’s, Royal Navy’s, or Royal Air Force’s websites can you please release these.”

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I am writing to confirm that the MOD holds documents which fall within the scope of your request. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request as to do so fully would exceed the appropriate limit. This is because the information you requested on the creation of the MOD website is not readily available or recorded on a central database. The MOD website closed on 12th December 2012 and was replaced by a defence presence on GOV.UK. The Royal Navy, Army and RAF retain their own websites. Attempting to locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request involves searching through records at a number of locations including MOD Head Office, Navy Command in Portsmouth, Army Headquarters in Andover and Air Command in High Wycombe.

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.

Under section 16 of the Act we have a duty to offer help and advice to enable you to refine your request. The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to specific periods of time or projects, we could then make an assessment of whether the refined request would come within the cost limit. 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 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, 1st 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, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

DDC Secretariat Parliamentary