



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence Equipment and Support  
Secretariat  
#2043 Maple 0a  
Ministry of Defence  
Abbey Wood  
Bristol BS34 8JH



Email: DES SEC-PolSec LE-JSC-WPNS@mod.uk

Mr C Winter

Email: request-942843-  
234f7049@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference:  
FOI2023/01175  
Date:  
23 February 2023

Dear Mr Winter,

Thank you for your email of 27 January 2023, requesting the following information:

**Please could you provide information about Ministry of Defence expenditure on storage of equipment within the United Kingdom, how many individual pieces of equipment are currently in storage, and what percent of this equipment eventually goes to the Defence Equipment Sales Authority (DESA).**

Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

While it is confirmed that information within the scope of your request is held by the Department, it has unfortunately not been possible to provide a substantive answer to your request as the time and work taken to ascertain what information is held would exceed an appropriate limit as set out in Section 12(2) of the FOI Act. Section 12(2) 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. The £600 appropriate limit relates to "an official" devoting 24 working hours (approximately three and a half working days) of chargeable staff effort to a request (determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it). Unfortunately, this is the case for your request; while we are unable, due to the extremely broad scope of your request, to give an exact estimate as to the time it would take to gather the information you requested, it would substantially exceed this figure.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the FOI Act, the MOD should try and help you reduce the scope of your request to bring it under the £600 limit. For instance, would you be able to narrow down your request to details of the storage of specific items or in a specific location? This would make it more likely that your request would come in under the appropriate limit. Please also note that any information we do release could be subject to qualified exemptions under the FOI Act and may therefore be withheld.

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,

DE&S Secretariat