

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 M Taylor request-738642-7437b549@whatdotheyknow.com

Our Reference: FOI2021/03128 Date: 19 April 2021

Dear Mr Taylor

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2021 requesting the following information:

"I have recently purchased an ex-military TRUCK UTY MED (HD) 6X6 PPV (PINZGAUER) VECTOR. In order to correctly repair and maintain this vehicle I require access to the various operating/repair manuals produced for this vehicle when in service.

Therefore, I submit an FOI request for the electronic copies of the following operator/repair manuals:

- 1) Operating Information 2320-D-503-201
- 2) Repair Instructions 2320-D-503-522
- 3) Maintenance Schedules 2320-D-503-601
- 4) Illustrated Parts Catalogue 2320-D-503-711
- 5) Technical Description 2320-D-503-302
- 6) Complete Equipment Schedule 2320-D-503-741

Your correspondence is being handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

An initial assessment has determined that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) does hold copies of Army Equipment Support Publications (AESP) for this vehicle. However, it has been assessed that it will not be possible to provide a substantive response without exceeding the appropriate financial limit. Section 12 of the FOI 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 requested information is held, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. To locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request would involve almost 10 working days of effort; approximately £2,000.

Section 16 of the FOI Act requires public authorities to offer advice and assistance on how to bring the cost of compliance under the financial limit. The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine it to bring the cost of compliance under the limit.

For example; it might be possible to supply copies of the AESPs relating specifically to Repair Instructions (AESP 2320-D-503-5220 and Maintenance Schedules (AESP 2320-D-503-601).

If you would like to refine your request, we will be pleased to help progress it further. However, even then, it is possible that some of the information might fall within the scope of qualified exemptions of the FOI Act, such as Section 26 (Defence), and require redaction prior to release.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI2020/03128 in any future communications.

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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 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 normally 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

DE&S Secretariat