



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Ref:
FOI2021/01408
FOI2021/01410

E-mail: [People-Sec-
ParliMailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:People-Sec-ParliMailbox@mod.gov.uk)

U Winfield
[request-725243-
f63f1583@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

03 March 2021

Dear U Winfield,

Thank you for your emails of 7 February 2021 requesting the following information:

- "1. Any application you made in 2019 or 2020 to be a "Stonewall Diversity Champion" or to be included on Stonewall's "Workplace Equality Index," including any attachments or appendices to those applications. Please redact personal details if necessary.*
- 2. Any feedback you received in 2019 or 2020 from Stonewall in relation to either application or programme.*
- 3. Any other communication you have received from Stonewall in 2019 or 2020 unless privileged or otherwise exempt from disclosure (but if you claim privilege or exemption in relation to any material, please say in broad terms what the material is and the basis on which you claim to be entitled to withhold it).*
- 4. Full details of any equality impact assessment you carried out connected with any of these applications (including any equality impact assessment carried out prior to an earlier application of the same kind, if no further assessment was done).*
- 5. Details of the total amount of money you paid to Stonewall (i) in 2019; (ii) in 2020, whether or not as payment for goods or services.*
- 6. Whether you intend to continue your membership of any Stonewall scheme in the future, and if so which."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm the Ministry of Defence holds copies of the information you have requested. The Ministry of Defence would need to review all documents for sensitive information that may need to be redacted under appropriate sections of the Act prior to possible release. It has been estimated that to achieve this it will take over 220 hours for the year 2019, and over 80 hours for the year 2020. Such a review has been assessed as being burdensome on the Department due to the length of time it would take. I should explain that under section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, public authorities do not have to comply with requests if they are deemed to be burdensome.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to refer to the Information Commissioners Office guidance on Section 14 exemptions, which expands considerably on the description provided in the legislation.

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,

Defence People Secretariat FOI.