



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Ref: FOI2020/00392

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Ms Deborah Manley
[request-621566-0f9680c8@whatdotheyknow.com](#)

18 February 2020

Dear Ms Manley,

Thank you for your email of 10 January 2020 clarifying your request to the following:

"For clarification of question 8 - Do you share any IT systems with other organisations (i.e does your IT supply systems for other organisations or vice versa)."

This clarification was following your original requests asking for the following information:

- "1)How many employees are working for your organisation, including full-time, part-time, and contracted staff?*
- 2)What is your annual intranet budget?*
- 3)What is your current intranet solution? (e.g. Invotra, Sharepoint, Kahootz, Umbraco) 4)How long have you been using this solution, and when does your contract expire?*
- 5)Do you work with an external partner to supply your intranet? If not, do you develop your intranet internally?*
- 6)Which team/individual is responsible for managing your intranet internally?*
- 7)Which other organisations have access to your intranet?*
- 8)Do you share IT services with other organisations?*
- 9) Are you using the Office 365 suite? If so, which applications from the suite are in use?*
- 10)Who is responsible for your intranet's procurement within the organisation?*
- 11)Do you use Microsoft's Active Directory to manage your people data? If so, is your Active Directory (AD) managed on-premise or in the cloud?*
- 12)Do you use any other Software as a Service (SaaS) applications? (e.g. Atlassian/Jira, Slack, Trello, Xero)."*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The contract expiry information you have requested for question 4, falls entirely within the scope of qualified exemptions provided for at sections 43 (Commercial Interests) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 43 is a qualified exemption and is subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Section 43(2) has been applied because the information in scope of the exemption would affect the commercial interests of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and would put the MOD at a disadvantage in future negotiations. Release of information could also prejudice future relations between MOD and its supplier. For these reasons I have set the level of “would”, rather than “would be likely to”.

In Favour of release is the presumptions towards disclosure under the FOIA as providing this information would increase transparency of specific contract information.

On balance, I consider the broader public interest favours maintaining the exemption and withholding the information you have requested.

How many employees are working for your organisation, including full-time, part-time, and contracted staff?

Under section 21 of the FOIA, the information you have requested for this question is reasonably accessible to the public and I have provided a link below:

[Ministry of Defence annual report and accounts 2018 to 2019](#) (please refer to page 68).

What is your annual intranet budget?

There is no budget as we use SharePoint.

What is your current intranet solution? (e.g. Invotra, Sharepoint, Kahootz, Umbraco).

We currently use SharePoint.

How long have you been using this solution, and when does your contract expire?

The authority estimates that we have been using SharePoint for the last 10 years. The contract expiry date has been withheld under Section 43 (Commercial Interests).

Do you work with an external partner to supply your intranet? If not, do you develop your intranet internally?

Microsoft and DXC are our external suppliers.

Which team/individual is responsible for managing your intranet internally?

The Corporate MOD Intranet DEFNET is jointly managed by Directorate of Defence Communications (DDC), Defence Business Services (DBS) and Defence Digital.

Which other organisations have access to your intranet?

DEFNET is available to all MOD employees who have access to a MODNet account.

Do you share IT services with other organisations?

Yes

Are you using the Office 365 suite? If so, which applications from the suite are in use?

Yes. Currently, most applications are in use with the exception of Yammer. PowerApps, Flow & Stream will be in use in 2020.

Who is responsible for your intranet's procurement within the organisation?

We do not procure intranet.

Do you use Microsoft's Active Directory to manage your people data? If so, is your Active Directory (AD) managed on-premise or in the cloud?

Some (not all) of MOD's people data is managed using Microsoft's Active Directory (AD); our main AD services are deployed in a combination of on-premises and private cloud (not in the public cloud) with a limited amount of information held in a public cloud Azure Active Directory to facilitate MOD's use of public cloud, in line with Government policy.

Do you use any other Software as a Service (SaaS) applications? (e.g. Atlassian/Jira, Slack, Trello, Xero)

O365 is a SAAS that we use.

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,

Defence Digital Secretariat