Ref: FOI2021/06359

Mr Edward Blaise  
request-765408-52b818c6@whatdotheyknow.com

28 July 2021

Dear Mr Blaise,

Thank you for your email of 15 June 2021, requesting the following information:

"Since the demise of HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, I had a question in regard to the office of Lord High Admiral.

1. Has the office of Lord High Admiral returned to the Queen?
2. If not, has it gone back into Commission?

Please could you provide me with any internal/external correspondence or papers on the matter."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). A search for the requested information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held. I apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

Under Section 16 of FOIA (advice and assistance), you may find it helpful to note that Her Majesty The Queen bestowed the appointment of Lord High Admiral on His Royal Highness (HRH) The Duke of Edinburgh, via Letters Patent, on his 90th Birthday (10 Jun 2011). As the title of Lord High Admiral is not hereditary and was resumed by the sovereign personally in 1964, upon the Death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh it will have been subsumed back into the Crown. As this title is personally held by Her Majesty, it is within her gift to decide if it remains with the Crown or if it will be awarded to another individual.

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.gov.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