



# Ministry of Defence

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Our Reference: FOI2015/03966

Mr D Smith

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20 May 2015

Dear Mr Smith,

Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated 21 April in which you requested the following information:

Please could you advise as to the number of small arms ranges currently under the control of RFCA bodies and of these how many are used by private shooting clubs, not part of the MOD or cadet forces? Can you advise on the typical cost of maintainance of such a range, whether fees recieved by private clubs cover the cost of operation and how many are currently out of service either permentaly or temporarily?

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. Following a search of our records, I can confirm that the MOD does hold information relating to your questions.

The RFCA currently controls 368 small arms ranges, of which 88 are also used by private gun clubs which are not part of the MOD or the cadet force. The 88 ranges used by private shooting clubs cost £63,908 in total, or an average of approximately £725 per range per annum in maintenance costs. Money received from the private shooting clubs amounts to £51,054.50 in total, or an average of £580 per range per annum. While this figure does not cover the entire maintenance costs of the ranges, it should be remembered that the private gun clubs are not the sole users of these ranges and the maintenance would be necessary whether they hired them or not.

There are currently 15 ranges closed or out of service.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

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 me in the first instance. 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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail Cxxxxxxxxx@xxx.xx). 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 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,

*(Original Signed)*  
Defence People Secretariat