



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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E-mail: People-Sec-FOIMailbox@mod.gov.uk

Ref:

FOI2021/03499, FOI2021/03456
FOI2021/03455, FOI2021/03454
FOI2021/03453

Ms Emma Lowther
request-741616-03a374dd@whatdotheyknow.com

27 April 2021

Dear Ms Lowther,

Thank you for your email of 26 March 2021 requesting the following information:

"it is my understanding that Stonewall provides members with 'action plans' as a form of feedback.

Please provide me with (where applicable)

- 1) *Copies of your Diversity Champions/workplace equality index action plan between 2015-2020*
- 2) *Evidence/copies of any feedback or assessments you had in relation to the stonewall diversity programme or workplace equality index"*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You have sent the same set of questions through to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), Royal Navy, Army, Royal Air Force and Ministry of Defence Police (see references above). The MOD is providing a single response which addresses all five of your FOIA requests. A search for the information requested has now been completed within the MOD, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 41 of the FOIA (Information provided in confidence), the MOD is not obliged to provide a response if the information was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and if the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under the Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person. This is an absolute exemption and so does not require a public interest test to be carried out under the FOIA. The documents you have requested contain information given to the MOD in confidence and therefore we will not be releasing this in response to your FOIA requests.

Under Section 16 (advice and assistance) of the FOIA you may wish to rephrase your questions and resubmit them, to avoid asking for information that is given to the MOD in confidence.

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