



# Ministry of Defence

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20 March 2023

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 20 February 2023 in which you requested the following information:

1. The total public funds committed to Adventurous Training Courses and expeditions and number of participants for the training years 2022/23 (to date).
2. For the three most expensive trips in 2022/23 (to date), please state the activity, the duration, the number of people that attended and IF POSSIBLE the spend on hotel, spend on travel etc.
3. Please provide a breakdown of spending by activity. For example, £200,000 Nordic skiing in Norway, £300,000 scuba diving in Indonesia, £150,000 sailing in Corfu etc.).

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held and is provided at Annex A.

For part 1 of the request, total public spend for Adventure Training courses could not be provided. The data is held but has not been compiled and is therefore not held by the Department. This is because the raw data does exist but would need to be analysed to produce a new information set. As we do not hold this information set, we are not required to provide it under the framework of the Act.

Under section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the Freedom of Information act, please be advised that Adventurous Training is designed to take individuals outside their comfort zone. The Adventurous Training Leadership and Resilience programme (ALeRT) develops leadership, resilience, coping strategies, decision making, teamwork, physical fitness and courage. With this comes a sense of achievement and camaraderie through tackling challenges together. A renewed sense of self determination makes for better soldiers and enables better lifestyle decisions.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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.uk](mailto:CIO-FOI-IR@mod.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,



Army Policy & Secretariat

Annex A

Caveats

- Please note that these figures are single service estimates and are not official statistics produced by Defence Statistics.
- The data is taken from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (Training Year 2022 – 2023)

**1. The total public funds committed to Adventurous Training Courses and expeditions and number of participants for the training years 2022/2023**

Training Year	Number of Personnel attending AT Courses
22/23	8,754

Training Year	Number of Personnel attending and cost (public spend) for expeditions	
	Personnel	Public Spend (£)
22/23	21,302	9,342,711.16

**2. For the three most expensive trips in 202/23, please state the activity, the duration, the number of people that attended and IF POSSIBLE the spend on hotel, spend on travel etc.**

- Under category for Other Expenditure, “Other” refers to all additional costs including but not limited to lift passes, unforeseen costs etc.
- Under category for Travel, “Other” refers to all additional travel costs including but not limited to coach transfers, parking etc.

Finance Type	Type	Category	Amount (£)
Expenditure	Other Expenditure	Accommodation	157,548.00
		Equipment Hire	4,000.00
		Insurance	7,200.00
		Other	70,000.00
	Travel	Ferry/Shuttle	500.00
		Flights	47,412.00
		Fuel	500.00
		Road Tolls	700.00
Total Cost:			287,860.00

- Activity: Skiing (Alpine) & Skiing (Alpine Touring)
- Number of Personnel: 221

- Number of Days: 40
- Expenditure includes public and non-public funds. This cannot be separated out.

Finance Type	Type	Category	Amount (£)
Expenditure	Other Expenditure	Accommodation	78,120.00
		Equipment Hire	22,640.00
		Food	5,040.00
		Insurance	5,040.00
		Other	65,360.00
	Travel	Ferry/Shuttle	500.00
		Flights	6,240.00
		Fuel	1,800.00
		Other	27,000.00
		Road Tolls	450.00
		Vehicles	3,600.00
Total Cost:			215,790.00

- Activity: Skiing (Alpine) & Skiing (Alpine Touring)
- Number of Personnel: 262
- Number of Days: 29
- Expenditure includes public and non-public funds. This cannot be separated out.

Finance Type	Type	Category	Amount (£)
Expenditure	Other Expenditure	Accommodation	65,000.00
		Equipment Hire	3,000.00
		Food	15,000.00
		Other	37,300.00
	Travel	Vehicles	40,000.00
Total Cost			160,300.00

- Activity: Skiing (Alpine) & Skiing (Alpine Touring)
- Number of Personnel: 150
- Number of Days: 10
- Expenditure includes public and non-public funds. This cannot be separated out.

3. IF POSSIBLE: For each year, please provide a breakdown of spending by activity. For example, £200,000 Nordic skiing in Norway, £300,000 scuba diving in Indonesia, £150,000 sailing in Corfu etc.). If it is not possible for every year, please just provide 2022/2023.

- Where there is a "0" in public money spent, it means there were no public funds used for that expedition.

Activity	Country	Number of Expeditions	Number of Personnel	Public Money (£)	Total Public Money Spent per Activity (£)
Kayaking (Inland)	Channel Islands	1	6	0	15502.71
	United Kingdom (UK)	9	63	15502.71	
Kayaking (Sea)	United Kingdom (UK)	11	83	28809.19	34666.39
	Spain	1	12	5857.2	
Mountain Biking	France	6	109	58310.1	153457.34
	Italy	1	16	10689.85	
	Spain	3	54	29187.48	
	United States of America (USA)	1	73	7172.71	
	United Kingdom (UK)	38	635	48097.2	
Mountaineering (Alpine)	France	2	18	19430.56	123150.02
	Italy	3	30	18675.37	
	Switzerland	1	20	12486	
	United States of America (USA)	1	24	72558.09	
Mountaineering (Summer)	Austria	1	22	7870.24	974215.51
	Corsica	6	82	54729.31	
	Cyprus	1	19	0	
	France	8	109	71930.28	
	Germany	1	14	4432.06	
	Greece	1	18	10766.4	
	Iceland	1	18	3450.44	
	Italy	1	8	4300	
	Jordan	1	30	19125.54	
	Kenya	6	79	32897.56	
	Malaysia	1	15	27172.75	
	Morocco	2	28	23681.73	
	Nepal	8	119	197090.38	
	Norway	1	12	5183.06	
	Peru	4	59	102580.05	
	Spain	4	43	24173.16	
	St.Lucia	1	44	65500.88	
	Switzerland	1	15	7812	
	Turkey	3	50	32964.03	
	United States of America (USA)	7	129	171167.38	
United Kingdom (UK)	86	1042	107388.26		

Mountaineering (Winter)	United Kingdom (UK)	6	49	14588.93	14588.93
Multi Activity	Andorra	4	101	96124.05	4877837.59
	Austria	25	1110	844032.92	
	Canada	3	347	67322.2	
	Channel Islands	1	17	13984.85	
	Corsica	1	16	6434	
	Croatia	1	10	9012.26	
	Cyprus	13	567	114284.88	
	Czech Republic	1	16	7000	
	Falkland Islands	1	14	0	
	France	72	2928	2436059.93	
	Germany	31	994	322353.44	
	Italy	9	236	142128.4	
	Japan	1	27	31770	
	Kenya	1	16	21026.65	
	Malta	1	24	13612.85	
	Morocco	1	40	15600	
	Nepal	2	37	160758.7	
	Northern Ireland	6	190	580	
	Norway	3	35	44722.22	
	Poland	1	91	28582.46	
	Slovenia	2	58	40932.74	
South Africa	1	21	39796.24		
Spain	4	69	27695.08		
Switzerland	2	17	21260.1		
United States of America (USA)	3	69	70348.03		
United Kingdom (UK)	181	6281	302415.59		
Offshore Sailing	Antigua & Barbuda	1	12	12038.4	261023.4
	Croatia	1	9	3558.15	
	Cyprus	7	58	33277.69	
	Denmark / Faroe / Greenland / Bornholm	1	11	11578.3	
	Estonia	1	52	23227.96	
	France	2	51	5901.68	
	Germany	3	24	15399.63	
	Greece	1	32	24946.72	
	Iceland	3	45	20477.71	
	Israel (incl. Occupied Territories)	1	6	2462.48	
	Spain	3	31	8958.84	
	United Kingdom (UK)	84	806	99195.84	
Open Canoeing	France	1	19	6573.32	88298.43
	Sweden	1	57	34046	
	United States of America (USA)	1	24	36090	

	United Kingdom (UK)	6	63	11589.11	
Parachuting	Cyprus	2	53	29417.11	320493.29
	United Kingdom (UK)	2	38	13714.25	
	France	3	50	47841.55	
	Spain	1	13	18080	
	United States of America (USA)	6	137	211440.38	
Paragliding	United Kingdom (UK)	2	13	7119.98	7119.98
Rock Climbing	Austria	1	15	7527.4	116208.78
	Cyprus	1	10	4126.1	
	France	1	16	9892.7	
	Greece	3	43	33552.09	
	Italy	1	16	6720	
	Spain	2	36	25192.4	
	United States of America (USA)	1	12	15120	
	United Kingdom (UK)	12	154	14078.09	
Skiing (Alpine Touring)	Austria	1	6	2698.02	107266.12
	France	6	91	79833.75	
	Iceland	1	14	24734.35	
Skiing (Alpine)	Austria	10	275	250611.62	1851829.73
	Cyprus	1	6	3794.64	
	Finland	1	27	18329.53	
	France	53	1953	1476014.5	
	Germany	2	73	51739.08	
	Italy	1	52	46892.36	
	United Kingdom (UK)	1	6	4448	
Skiing (Nordic Touring)	Norway	1	13	19012.16	19012.16
Skiing (Nordic)	British Antarctic Territories (BAT)	1	7	133150	159710.17
	Norway	1	30	26560.17	
Sub-Aqua Diving	Cyprus	9	108	53116.5	218330.61
	Gibraltar	3	37	14191.68	
	Malta	9	169	134957.83	
	United Kingdom (UK)	4	51	16064.6	