



Ministry
of Defence

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13 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your email of 29 January 2018 in which you requested the following information:

'I am writing to you today for clarification on the Displacement of the two Queen Elizabeth class carriers. Typically the figure of 65,000 tonnes (metric) is used in conjunction with the class of ships. However in 2014 it seems this figure was adjusted to 70,600 tonnes after a survey by the Royal Institution of Naval Architects. Since then most sources - the Royal Navy website in particular - have continued to use the 65,000-tonne figure. I am looking to find out why there are two figures being used.

*Please may you clarify the empty displacement of the ships (please provide figures for both ships of the class if they are different)
And the expected operational or full load displacement (please provide figures for both ships of the class if they are different).'*

Your enquiry is being treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

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

In response to your request, I can confirm that the empty displacement figure for both HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince of Wales is 65,000 tonnes as both are being built to the same design specifications. However, it is not possible to provide a fully loaded displacement figure, as it would depend on a number of variables, such as aircraft, fuel, people and stores etc.

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.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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section