



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Ref: FOI2015/06627

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[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

21 August 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 22 July 2015 requesting the following information:

"I would like to submit the following questions which I believe come under the FOI Act.

Please can you tell me the total cost of one weeks training for a Battlegroup in the

- Command and Staff Trainer (CAST)
- Combined Arms Tactical Trainer (CATT)
- And the cost of using AWES / DFES for a one week live exercise.

I would also like to know the following:

- The cost of each of the six infantry battalion exercises that take place in BATUK
- The cost of each of the 5 Battle Group exercises taking place in BATUS
- The cost of the RAF participating in 3 week Red Flag exercise at Nellis AFB in February of this year.
- The cost to the UK of a the most recent Exercise Joint Warrior "

This has been considered as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

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

I will answer each part of your request in order:

The cost of one weeks training for a Battlegroup in the specific areas you have requested is as follows:-

Command and Staff Trainer (CAST) - £79.4K

Combined Arms Tactical Trainer (CATT) - £199.5K

And the cost of using AWES/DFES for a one week live exercise - £149.7K

The cost of each of the six infantry battalion exercises that take place in BATUK is £9.4M (FY15/16 cost base)

The cost of each of the 5 Battle Group exercises taking place in BATUS is £24.3M (FY15/16 cost base)

The costs associated with the Red Flag exercise at Nellis AFB, 26 January to 13 February were £1.6M. This relates to expenses such as transport and movement of personnel and freight, accommodation and subsistence, temporary IT and Communications and ground fuel and other in-country costs. This figure does not include manpower or aviation fuel as we do not hold this data against specific exercises.

The MOD is unable to provide the costing you requested for the most recent exercise Joint Warrior, because the required data is not held. The Royal Navy website describes Ex Joint Warrior as 'a UK tri-Service multinational exercise that involves numerous warships, aircraft, marines and troops' and the most recent one was held during 13-24 April 2015.

Navy Command Finance does not routinely analyse and collate the costs of the involvement of RN assets in exercises such as this. Output costing methodologies and processes are not in place within NC Finance to provide this information and there is currently no requirement for costs to be collected and reported for this type of defence activity.

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 CIO-FOI-IR@mod.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 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