



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Telephone +44 (0)20 7218 9000
[MOD]: +44 (0)20 7218 9451
Facsimile [MOD]: CLS-Group-Mailbox-
E-mail: Office@mod.uk

Ref. FOI2016/12412 (D/CLS/Sec/02/01/39)

[REDACTED]

18 January 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 15 December 2016 requesting the following information:

- *I would like to know the amount of money your department spent on legal services provided by the Government Legal Department (and its predecessor the TSoL – Treasury Solicitor's Department). I would like this information provided for the year ending March 31st 2016 and (separate figure) for the year ending March 31st 2015.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

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

The department spent the following with the Government Legal Department and Treasury Solicitors in the years 2014-15 and 2015-16.

2015/16

Government Legal Department - £31,605,834

Treasury Solicitors - £2,873,277

2014/15

Treasury Solicitors - £29,086,065

These figures include the costs of the MoD buying in the services of the lawyers who work in Central Legal Services, as they are Government Legal Department employees.

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, 2nd 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 faithfully,

CENTRAL LEGAL SERVICES