



Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2015/07185

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07rd September 2015

Thank you for your email dated 12th August 2015 requesting the following information:

..... I mentioned I [REDACTED] were planning to write a paper on defence equipment cost growth for SCAF and I would appreciate have access to the data file assembled for the study we carried out when I [REDACTED]

I again asks you for this today and you said you would need to obtain approval. I am formally requesting the data under the provisions of the FOI.

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. I interpret your request as a request for the data underlying the paper "Intergenerational Equipment Cost Escalation (IECE)" published by the Ministry of Defence in December 2012.

I confirm data relating to this paper is held.

The (IECE) paper is available on the web and was published by the Ministry of Defence in December 2012.

[\[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/280041/18_december_2012.pdf\]](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/280041/18_december_2012.pdf)

Please note that the IECE paper is an attempt to establish as far as is possible the extent of historic intergenerational cost growth for the various defence equipment platforms for which data can be obtained and to establish to what extent the increase in intergenerational cost is explained by the change in the characteristics of the equipment provided.

Much of the data is available publically on the web, Section 21 of the FOIA makes provisions for exemption where the information is already in the public domain and reasonably accessible. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and is not subject to a public interest test.

Some data has been provided by individuals in confidence. Section 41 FOIA applies to information obtained from any other person, including another public authority, where release would constitute an actionable breach of confidence (where the provider or a third party would have the right to take the MOD to court). Section 41 is absolute There is no overriding public interest in disclosure. A test of the Public Interest Test is not required.

Some data is subject to copyright. Section 44(1)(a) of the FOIA makes provisions for exemption where the disclosure of information is prohibited by or under any enactment (copyright). Section 44 is an absolute exemption and is not subject to a public interest test.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that information, such as unit cost, date in service and basic characteristics, of all major UK defence platforms is publically available on the web, for example, information on the Challenger 2, a Main Battle Tank is available https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Challenger_2 and provides information on unit cost price, where and when produced (1993-2002), number built (446) and characteristics such as weight, length, width, height and crew capacity along with many other details, including service history. Similarly detailed information is available on the Eurofighter Typhoon https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eurofighter_Typhoon and most of the other defence equipment platforms referenced in the paper are similarly available.

Other information is available from published sources such as Jane's Fighting Ships or Jane's Armour and Artillery published annually by McGraw-Hill. Other sources include Watts, Aircraft Carriers and their Aircraft ISBN070635538, and Preston, Warships of the World ISBN 07106002082.

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 Economics