



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your correspondence, dated 6th June 2016, in which you requested the following information:

"What were the top 10 most visited websites that members of staff visited from 01/01/15 to 01/01/16."

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

I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

MOD records the number of HTTP requests rather than websites visited. This means that where a website consists of a number of separate components required to present the page you actually see on your screen, for example, page layout, text on the page, pictures, video, URL's to other pages, document links, picture links, cookie information, advertising feeds, advertising tracking, page updates, scrolling banners, refresh data, then each of these is counted as a separate HTTP request; an example of this is that in order to display the Telegraph home page, 284 HTTP requests to domains are made. This could result in that site appearing higher in our results than a site that has

the same number of unique visits but which has fewer component parts, for example, those listed in the table below ranked 1-4, 7 and 9. Where a site has a large home page which refreshes every 5 minutes, all of the associated links will also refresh.

The top 10 HTTP requests made in the period you have specified are as follows:

Site	Ranking	Comments
i.dailymail.co.uk	1	This site has a large home page and refreshes every 5 mins
ping.chartbeat.net	2	
www.google-analytics.com	3	
ecx.images-amazon.com	4	
www.google.co.uk	5	
www.independent.co.uk	6	This site has a large home page and refreshes every 5 mins
i.telegraph.co.uk	7	This site has a large home page and refreshes every 5 mins
www.dle.mod.uk	8	Defence Learning Environment
pictures2.autotrader.co.uk	9	
www.telegraph.co.uk	10	This site has a large home page and refreshes every 5 mins

While it may appear that the Mail or Telegraph websites are particularly popular with MOD staff, larger more complex home pages will have inflated figures when measured by HTTP request. So it therefore cannot be concluded from this data alone that the Mail website is the most visited site at the Ministry of Defence.

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-FOHR@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,

Information Systems and Services (ISS) Secretariat

