



**Ministry
of Defence**

DSEA SECRETARIAT GROUP
Defence Safety and Environment Authority (DSEA)
1/J
Main Building
Whitehall
London, SW1A 2HB

E-mail: DSEA-Secretariatgroup@mod.uk

Your Reference: [REDACTED]

Our Reference: [REDACTED]

Date: 04 March 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – RELEASE OF INFORMATION UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 February 2014 in which you made a request for:

"I would like to ask the following questions under the Freedom of Information Act, first off specifically regarding MOD Staff with the relevant authority from the Driving Standards Agency to conduct Driving Tests ('MOD Driving Examiner'):

- a) *What is the current Job Profile regarding this position (Job Title, Pay Scale, Minimum Requirements to Apply, etc.)?*
- b) *What locations are they currently based at?*
- c) *What Categories of testing are they authorised to conduct at these locations?*
- d) *Could you please provide the Pass Rates for the 2012/13 Period for separate Categories of Driving Tests conducted by them for each location?*
- e) *Is this job considered a Civilian or Military position?*
- f) *Are they required to attend to more than 1 location in order to carry out their duties and, if so, are they entitled to expenses claims?*

The following questions are related to Driver Theory Testing:

- g) *Does the MOD currently have the authority to conduct Driving Theory Testing and, if so, at what locations and for which Categories?*
- h) *Could you please provide the Pass Rates for the 2012/13 Period for separate Categories of Driving Theory Testing for each location?*
- i) *Which MOD Staff are currently authorised to conduct Driving Theory Testing?*
- j) *Is this job considered a Civilian or Military position?*
- k) *Are MOD Staff required to attend to more than 1 location in order to carry out their duties and, if so, are they entitled to expenses claims?"*

We are 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 we can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below, your question is in bold text with our answer following after in regular text:

a) What is the current Job Profile regarding this position (Job Title, Pay Scale, Minimum Requirements to apply, etc.)? – In the case of military staff, the Driving Examiner (DDE) role is an additional responsibility assumed over and above the Soldiers primary role. In addition there are a number of civilian personnel within the MOD that are exclusively employed as DDE.

- Starting salary: Army Sergeant is £30, 445 and Civil Servant £23 661.
- Minimum requirements:
 - Must be minimum Army rank of Substantive Sergeant and service equivalent for the Royal Air force or Navy. MOD civil servants who are employed as DDE must be at least a substantive Grade D.
 - Must be a skilled driver who has passed a driving assessment conducted by a Military Master Driver or nominated DDE authorised by the Defence Licensing and Testing Authority Inspectorate and must not gain more than 6 driving faults during the driving assessment.

b) What locations are they currently based at? - DDEs are currently based in the following locations:

- UK - Aldershot, Bovington, Brecon, Bulford, Catterick, Chilwell Colchester, Culdrose, Deepcut, Edinburgh, Grantham, Leconfield, London, Preston, Shorncliffe and Shrewsbury;
- Germany - Gutersloh, Herford, Hohne and Paderborn;
- Northern Ireland - Lisburn;
- Cyprus.

c) What Categories of testing are they authorised to conduct at these locations? -
The DDE is authorised to conduct driving tests for each licence category they hold.

d) Could you please provide the Pass Rates for the 2012/13 Period for separate Categories of Driving Tests conducted by them for each location? - Pass rates are shown in the table below. N.B. Where a pass rate appears to be high this may be as a result of the low number of tests taken for that particular category.

[illegible]

Hohne	76	89	N/A	69	79	85	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Leconfield	60	67	N/A	63	66	84	100	72	100	N/A
Lisburn	76	100	71	78	N/A	89	N/A	100	100	N/A
London	72	88	N/A	79	77	98	N/A	100	N/A	N/A
Paderborn	88	90	N/A	80	83	100	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Preston	73	88	N/A	84	76	93	N/A	83	N/A	N/A
Shrewsbury	70	94	N/A	87	88	96	100	96	100	N/A
Shorncliffe	62	76	N/A	73	81	92	N/A	68	N/A	100

e) Is this job considered a Civilian or Military position? - The MOD has both Military and Civilian DDE.

f) Are they required to attend to more than 1 location in order to carry out their duties and, if so, are they entitled to expenses claims? - DDE will predominantly test in the geographical area in which they are serving. Exceptionally there may be occasions when a DDE may be required to travel to another location to test. However, these locations are within a reasonable travelling distance from a military establishment where accommodation and meals would be available and as such there would be no entitlement to expenses.

g) Does the MOD currently have the authority to conduct Driving Theory Testing and, if so, at what locations and for which Categories? - The MOD has delegated authority which authorises the Secretary of State for Defence to conduct Driver Theory Testing for all Theory Test categories at the following locations:

- UK - Aldershot, Bovington, Brecon, Bulford, Catterick, Chilwell, Colchester, Cudrose, Deepcut, Edinburgh, Grantham, Leconfield, London, Preston,, Shorncliffe and Shrewsbury;
- Germany - Gutersloh, Herford, Hohne and Paderborn;
- Northern Ireland - Lisburn;
- Brunei and Cyprus.

h) Could you please provide the Pass Rates for the 2012/13 Period for separate Categories of Driving Theory Testing for each location? - Please see table below

Location	2012/13 Theory Test Pass Rates as a Percentage					
	A	B	C Hazard Perception	C Multiple Choice	D Hazard Perception	D Multiple Choice
Aldershot	N/A	75	81	84	80	79
Bovington	87	81	69	75	79	71
Brecon	N/A	75	73	88	88	86
Brunei	N/A	83	68	100	88	100
Bulford	N/A	70	77	76	77	82
Edinburgh	N/A	68	83	86	85	87
Catterick	N/A	72	79	83	74	76
Chilwell	N/A	75	75	85	84	78
Colchester	N/A	79	76	88	81	90
Cudrose	N/A	82	82	91	72	86
Cyprus	N/A	71	83	94	67	100
Deepcut	N/A	71	73	92	85	94
Grantham	100	83	90	100	82	94
Gutersloh	N/A	89	88	94	82	96
Herford	61	75	73	83	73	88
Hohne	N/A	94	97	92	98	100
Leconfield	N/A	71	73	92	85	94

Lisburn	N/A	76	80	80	70	70
London	N/A	80	84	97	83	98
Paderborn	N/A	72	70	69	74	82
Preston	N/A	84	75	79	92	84
Shorncliffe	N/A	71	77	80	88	86
Shrewsbury	89	75	81	83	71	91

i) Which MOD Staff are currently authorised to conduct Driving Theory Testing? -

Both Military and Civilian. A minimum Army rank of Corporal and Service equivalent for the Royal Air Force or Navy. MOD Civil Servants must be a minimum of substantive Grade E1.

j) Is this job considered a Civilian or Military position? - The MOD has both Military and Civilian Invigilators.

k) Are MOD Staff required to attend to more than 1 location in order to carry out their duties and, if so, are they entitled to expenses claims? - Invigilating Officers will predominantly test in the geographical area in which they are serving. Exceptionally there may be occasions when an Invigilator may be required to travel to another location to test. However, these locations are within a reasonable travelling distance from a military establishment where accommodation and meals would be available and as such there would be no entitlement to expenses.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us 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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 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.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely
DSEA-Secretariat Group