



Ministry
of Defence

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[REDACTED]

e-Mail: [REDACTED]

Our Reference:
FOI2015/10117
Date:
26 November 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Request for Information

Thank you for your email of 16 November 2015. You asked:

Under the freedom of information act, would you please supply me with a list of the private road transport companies that supply the MoD with abnormal load transportation in England since January 2012 until November 2015.

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

I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request would involve at least some 350 man days of effort as this data is not held centrally in the Ministry of Defence (MOD).

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it. In this instance we estimate this would cost around £8,750.

Section 16 of the FOIA, public authorities are required to provide the requester with advice and assistance on how to reduce or refine a request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit by narrowing or limiting its scope. However, in this instance it is difficult to see how this could be achieved. I can, however, confirm the names of the two main contractors

used to move abnormal loads on behalf of the Defence Supply Chain Operations and Movements (DSCOM) are DSV and Metcalfe Farms.

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,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

DE&S Secretariat