



Ministry
of Defence Police

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2017/04710 RFI: 103/17
Date: 9 May 2017

[REDACTED]
By email - [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: FRUITLESS PAYMENTS

We refer to your email dated 13 April 2017 which was acknowledged on the 18 April 2017.

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your email of the 13 April 2017 you requested the following information:

“For the last financial year (2016-17), I would like details of all fruitless payments paid by your force - i.e. payments for which liability ought not to have been incurred or where the demand for the goods or services in question could have been cancelled in time to avoid liability.

Please provide this information for the financial year 2016-17 for all payments. If this would exceed cost limit, please just provide this information for fruitless payments of over £30,000.

For each payment please state:

- What each payment was for**
- The value of each payment**
- The reason why payment was made.**
- The reason why the payment was classified as fruitless**
- Whether any disciplinary action was taken as a result of the payment (if so, please specify type). ”**

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

Please see the following payments in scope of your request listed below;

Financial Year	Cost	Reason
16/17	£7,021.29	Cancelled hotel bookings

No disciplinary action was taken as a result of the above payments.

The costs above fall within the following definition of fruitless payments as stated in the MOD Financial Accounting & Reporting Manual's (JSP 472):

Fruitless payments. *Payments where the Department receives nothing useful in return and: should not have incurred the liability; or could have taken appropriate action to avoid incurring the liability. For example: the cost of repairing incorrectly packed equipment damaged in transit, the cost of rectifying design faults arising from poor specification, failure to cancel travel, accommodation and training bookings in time to obtain a refund.*

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 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, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB (email 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 the 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

MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office