



Ministry of Defence Police

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[REDACTED]

By email – [REDACTED]

Our Ref: eCase: 2015/04263 RFI 98/15

Date: 9th June 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: DETAILS OF PAYMENTS TO POLICE INFORMANTS.

I write in regards to your e-mail of 11th May 2015.

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

In your email you requested the following information:

“Could you please list all payments to police informants (non-police employees) between 1 April 2011 and 2015.

In terms of the format, could you outline whether the payment is to a female or a male, how much it was for, when it was paid and where more than one payment is made to the same person could this please be made clear.

Where a police informant is on a retainer (paid a regular amount), could the amount per month be made clear and how long it was paid for to give the overall amount.

Could you also provide the overall total for the amount paid by the force to police informants over the four years.”

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

In regards to your question:

‘Could you also provide the overall total for the amount paid by the force to police informants over the four years.’

Please see table below.

Year	Amount £
2011	£202
2012	£870
2013	£0.00
2014	£2210
2015	£500

In regards to your question:

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I have considered your request and concluded that Section 30(2) (investigations) and Section 40(2) Personal Information applies.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption because disclosing third party personal data would breach the 1st principle of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Section 30 (2) is a class based exemption. I have conducted a Public Interest Test (PIT) and concluded that the balance favours exempting the information from release. Section 30(2) (investigations) applies because the release of information would likely to be prejudicial to both the process and the individuals concerned.

Additionally, the Ministry of Defence Police can neither confirm nor deny that they hold any other information relevant to the whole of your request by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 23(5) Information relating to security bodies

Section 24(2) National Security

Section 23 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.

Section 24(2) is a qualified prejudiced based exemption, there is a requirement for us to evidence harm confirming or denying information is held and also consider the public interest.

Section 24(2) is engaged because to confirm or deny whether the Ministry of Defence Police hold any additional information would allow inferences to be made about the nature and extent of national security related activities which may or may not take place. This could enable terrorist groups to take steps to avoid detection, and as such, confirmation or denial would be damaging to national security.

This should not be taken as conclusive evidence that any information that would meet your request exists or does not exist

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, 1st 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