



Ministry of Defence

Defence Resources Secretariat
Ministry of Defence
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Reference: FOI2015/06608



E-mail: [Redacted]

Date: **30 October 2015**

Dear [Redacted],

Your correspondence dated 22 July 2015 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

1) What percentage of MOD budget is made up of

- a. expenses.*
- b. salaries.*
- c. pensions.*
- d. benefits*

in the upper echelons of all departments within the MOD?

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information in scope of questions a), b), c) and d). The information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. It is already in the public domain and can be accessed via the links below:

Question a:

Documents relating to Ministers gifts, hospitality, travel and meetings can be found at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ministerial-gifts-hospitality-travel-and-meetings-with-external-organisations-in-the-ministry-of-defence>

Questions b), c) and d).

The information for Defence Ministers and also the Defence Board members can be found in the latest edition of the Annual Report and Accounts which can be found in Chapter 4: Remuneration Report (pages 75 to 86) at the link below:

MOD Annual Report and Accounts – 2014-15

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445955/20150716-17-MOD-ARAc-combined-at-16-July-2015-print-version.pdf

The total MOD budget for 2014-15 was £33.8Bn and detailed information on the MOD Budget can also be found in the MOD Annual Report and Accounts 2014/15.

Section 21 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

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>.

I hope you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Resources Secretariat