



Ministry  
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section  
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FOI 2015/07019

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Via email: [REDACTED]

7 September 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Request for Information – Final Response

Thank you for your inquiry dated 7 August requesting the following information:

*“Following your reply to my recent FOI Request on Market Skills Supplement, please can you expand on the statement “*

*“The criterion for award of Market Skills Supplement (MSS) is so that the Civil Service can attract and retain suitably qualified and experienced candidates...”  
what formal qualifications apply and how much experience is required with the four posts outlined?*

*Who is the Vessel Traffic Service Marine Manager?”*

Your inquiry is being considered as a Freedom of Information request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I should first inform you that the post of “Vessel Traffic Service Marine Manager” notified to you in an earlier FOI response as one of the four posts attracting MSS in the Portsmouth Queen’s Harbourmaster’s office, should have been entitled “Vessel Traffic Service Movements Manager” (VTS/Movements Manager). We are unable to supply the identity of the VTS/Movements Manager) as this is personal information the release of which would be in breach of Section 40(2) of the FOI Act.

Section 40(2) – the exemption from disclosure of personal data relating to third parties. The release of personal information relating to other individuals would contravene the data protection principles, namely Principle 1 – personal data shall be processed fairly and lawfully.

The formal qualifications required for the four posts in the Portsmouth QHM office attracting payment of MSS are set out below. The length of experience required is not recorded.

- **Queen's Harbour Master** - STCW 95 II/2 Masters Certificate of Competency or STCW 95 II/2 Chief Engineer Certificate of Competency.
- **Deputy Queen's Harbour Master** - STCW 95 11/2 Masters Certificate of Competency (or equivalent).
- **Port Safety Officer** – None Recorded, Highly Desirable - STCW 95 II/2 Master's Certificate of Competency or equivalent; MCA recognised Oil Spill Response qualification; a Lead Auditors qualification; a recognised Maritime Incident Investigation qualification.
- **Vessel Traffic Service Movements Manager** - STCW (Deck) 11/1 Certificate.

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](mailto: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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section