



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Reference: FOI2016/03307

Reply to: [REDACTED]

11 April 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 15 March 2016 in which you have requested the following information:

“A I am writing to request an update on the proposed Regular Forces Long Service Medal. Further to my last request Ref: 2015/04533, I request answers to the following questions:-

- 1. Did the HD Committee & Her Majesty The Queen approve the concept of the medal?*
- 2. Has the Royal Mint begun the design process?*
- 3. If the design is complete, I request an image of the design.*
- 4. Has the criteria for the medal been formalised? If it has what is it?*
- 5. Has the MOD Medal Office began the tender process?*
- 6. When is the first medal expected to be issued?”*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information within the scope of your request.

Therefore the answers to each part of your FOI request are set out herewith in the same order:

1. The HD Committee was invited to note MOD's intention to introduce a new medal in a paper which was circulated in May 2015. As the HD Committee was invited to note rather than approve MOD's intention, MOD would not expect to receive an official response from the Cabinet Office stating that the HD Committee or Her Majesty had noted that intention - and none has been received.
2. The Royal Mint has not commenced the design process.
3. The design process has not yet commenced.
4. The criteria for the medal has not yet been formalised.
5. The tender process has not commenced yet.
6. It is not known at this stage when the first medal will be issued.

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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [REDACTED]). 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

Defence People Secretariat