



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Statistics (Health)
Ministry of Defence
Oak 0 West (#6028)
Abbey Wood North
Bristol BS34 8JH
United Kingdom

Telephone [MOD]: +44 (0)30679 84423

Facsimile [MOD]: +44 (0)1179 319634

E-mail: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk

Reference: FOI2014/03824

correspondence dated: 21 July 2014



Date: 14 August 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 21 July 2014 requesting the following information:

How many recipients are there of the AFCS, who are normally resident in Wirral as of 31st March 2014 also, how many recipients are there of the WPS – also as of 31st March 2014

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. The information you requested is enclosed.

- As at 31 March 2014 there were **930** Disablement Pensioners with a contact address in Wirral who were in receipt of an ongoing War Pension under the War Pension Scheme (WPS) for an injury/illness attributable to Service prior to 6 April 2005
- As at 31 March 2014 there were **50** ex-Service personnel with a contact address in Wirral who had been awarded compensation under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) for an injury/illness attributable to Service after 6 April 2005

Please note that in line with Defence Statistics' rounding policy all figures provided of five or more have been rounded to the nearest five.

In your request you also requested clarification on the reason why, in Table 3.3a in the latest published AFCS tables, the total 'Number of Claims' is less than the 'All Lump Sums'.

Table 3.3a presents the breakdown of lump sum payments awarded for specific injuries / illnesses, as defined by the tariff of injury table. Individuals may have been awarded one lump sum payment following a claim, but if their award included compensation for multiple injuries / illnesses then each injury / illness that attracted a lump sum award will be captured within this table.

Background notes

1. The War Pensions Scheme (WPS) provides no-fault compensation for all ex-service personnel where illness, injury or death is caused by Service from the start of the First World War in 1914 up until 5 April 2005.
2. The Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death attributable to Service that occurred on or after that date. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the War Pensions Scheme (WPS) and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces Pensions Scheme.
3. Please note that under the AFCS individuals can make a claim and be awarded lump sum compensation while still in Service. Therefore to identify veterans, we have identified individuals who did not appear on our latest Armed Forces population data (as at 1 August 2014).
4. The figures presented are based on data stored on the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency's Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) and the War Pensions Computer System (WPCS).
5. The number of Veterans in Wirral have been worked out by linking the recorded postcode from the data stored on the Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) and the War Pensions Computer System (WPCS) to the Office of National Statistics address file and searching for those individuals with a local authority code 'E08000015' for Wirral
6. Please note that contact address information is not complete for all records on the Compensation and pension system (CAPS) and the War Pension Computer System (WPCS) and therefore the figures provided should be treated as the minimum level of recipients in Wirral.
7. The Ministry of Defence and the RBL are currently using the estimate that there are over 4.6 million veterans in the UK.
8. The Royal British Legion (RBL) published a paper in 2005 on the 'Profile of the Ex-Service Community in the UK' , providing a breakdown by region. This paper can be found on the RBL website: <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/media/33529/revisseex-serviceprofile.pdf>
9. King's College London have published a paper which estimated the size of the veteran household population in England in 2007, with forecasted veteran numbers as at 2017 and 2027. This paper is available on the Office for National Statistics (ONS) website:
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/population-trends-rd/population-trends/no--138--winter-2009/an-estimate-of-the-veteran-population-in-england--based-on-data-from-the-2007-adult-psychiatric-morbidity-survey-.pdf>
10. Information and publications on the health and welfare issues of veterans in the UK are available on the following websites:
 - a. Veterans UK - <http://www.veterans-uk.info/welfare/welfare.html>
 - b. The Royal British Legion - <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering War Pension Scheme and Armed Forces Compensation Scheme in the UK Armed Forces and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing: DefStrat-Stat-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.uk

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.gov.uk>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics (Health) Head (B1)