



Ministry  
of Defence

Army Secretariat  
Army Headquarters  
IDL 24 Blenheim Building  
Marlborough Lines  
Andover  
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ  
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2014/03122

E-mail: [Army\\_Sec-group@mod.uk](mailto:Army_Sec-group@mod.uk)

Website: [www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

Mr

E-mail address:

11 July 2014

*Dear*

Thank you for your email of 4 July requesting the following information:

"In response to the question of costs, if the request were refined to a yearly breakdown of how many incidents relating to World War Two ordnance were attended in the past three years, would this fall within the scope of the limits?"

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

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because the information you requested is not held in a central database from which the information can be extracted and means a manual trawl of technical documents and an EOD Operator's technical assessment of some 8,000 incidents dealt with during the period requested, which is estimated would take in the region of 1300 hours to complete.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The only information I can provide that is within the cost limit is a list of the number of incidents attended on a monthly basis during the last five years. However, it is just a list of numbers and does not provide any information of location, type of ordnance, or whether it was a false alarm (i.e. no ordnance present). Please contact me if you would like this 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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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,

M.

F