



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Reference: FOI [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Email to: [REDACTED]

27 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 21 June 2014 in which you requesting the following information:

'Please can you provide me with an estimate of total expenditure across the ministry of defence in the 2013/14 financial year relating to skiing trips including the costs associated with organisation, transport (eg flights), accommodation, equipment, ski passes etc..'

I am writing to confirm that we are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act). I can confirm that the MOD holds some information within the scope of your request.

For the Royal Navy Ski Championship we estimate that the expenditure was £136,637. For the Royal Air Force Skiing Championship and Indoor Championship we estimate the expenditure to have been £175,006. However, it should be noted that a lot of the travel and cash in lieu of rations (CILOR) costs are absorbed in unit budgets, and therefore not separately identified

Estimated costs for Army activity are not so easily identifiable. In May 2013 the Army conducted a review of winter activities (including sport) to determine the benefits generated from participation in winter activity, the cost of supporting that activity and to ensure that the rules governing the expenditure of public monies were being enforced and value for money achieved.

However, the review was unable to determine the precise level of public expenditure on winter sport because of the diverse funding routes which currently support it. The review recognised the current difficulties in recording expenditure on winter sport and as a result the Army has established an improved mechanism to collect and record this data for the 2014/15 season.

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 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

Defence Personnel Secretariat