



Ministry
of Defence

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Reference: FOI2014/04977

Correspondence dated: 8 September 2014

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: 6 October 2014

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 8 September 2014 requesting the following information:

The total annual amounts paid out under the AFCS during the last three calendar years for lump sum payments only, by year

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 presented below.

During the last three calendar years the total amounts have been paid out in the form of lump sum payments under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS):

- 2011 – £112.66m
- 2012 – £62.76m
- 2013 – £65.55m

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may find it useful to note the following:

The Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death caused by 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.

Under the AFCS, compensation payments include a tariff-based tax free lump sum for pain and suffering associated with the injury or illness, the size of which reflects the severity of the injury or illness. There are 15 tariff levels with associated lump sums. For more serious injuries, in addition to the lump sum, a tax-free index-linked income stream known as the Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) is paid from service termination for life to recognise loss of future earnings due to the injury or illness. Under the AFCS, a claim can be made and awarded while still in Service.

Further information on the AFCS can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans>.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to our statistical publications covering the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme 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)