



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Our Reference: FOI2016/08111

██████████ ██████████

Reply to: ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

20 September 2016

Dear ██████████ ██████████,

Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated 26 August 2016 in which you requested the following information:

“ Please disclose total Litigation costs to date, including the most recent, June 2016 Mr Justice Blake if possible, of all legal and relevant other costs, MOD v British Nuclear Test Veterans.”

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD, and I can advise that this department holds information in scope of your request, which we have obtained from the Government Legal Department.

Please be advised that the total legal cost to MOD in the First Tier Tribunal appeals (in which Mr Justice Blake is currently presiding) is as follows:-

- i. The MOD's total legal costs for the original grouped First Tier Tribunal proceedings and subsequent appeals to the Upper Tribunal in the appeals of Adbale and 11 others was £925,116.54 (excluding VAT).
- ii. These appeals were remitted to the original grouped First Tier Tribunal and the remitted proceedings are not yet concluded. I can inform you that to 9 September 2016, MOD's legal costs for the current remitted grouped First Tier Tribunal appeals (Adbale and 11 others) are £189,890.22 (excluding VAT). It is estimated that the final total for the remitted appeals is now likely to be around £265,000 (excluding VAT).
- iii. Further appeals before the First Tier Tribunal are stayed or concluded. MOD's total legal costs for these proceedings, to 14 July 2016, are £29,712.51 (excluding VAT).

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, 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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

(Original Signed)
Defence People Secretariat