



# Ministry of Defence

Defence Resources Secretariat  
Ministry of Defence  
Main Building (Level 3, Zone A)  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
United Kingdom

E-mail: [DGFinance-SecParliamentaryFOI@mod.uk](mailto:DGFinance-SecParliamentaryFOI@mod.uk)

Reference: **FOI2016/00674**



E-mail: 

Date: **18 January 2016**

Dear 

Your correspondence dated 15 January 2016 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You requested the following information:

*I am writing to make a Freedom of Information request of 'How much money (£) has been spent so far on airstrikes in Syria, from 02/12/2015 (when the airstrikes were authorised) to the current date / as up to date as possible?' It would be useful to know the total amount spent, and a break-up of how this money was spent.*

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held. This is because we do not record the costs of military action in Syria separately from those of wider counter-Daesh operations owing to the inter-related nature of UK military activity.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA, public authorities are required to provide advice and assistance while processing FOI requests, and I have therefore included some additional information below that you may find useful.

### UK Counter-Daesh Costs 2014-15 and 2015-16

The net additional costs of counter-Daesh operations incurred in 2014-15 totalled around £80 million.

In July 2015 £75 million was approved by Parliament at Main Estimates to meet the initial net additional costs of counter-Daesh operations in financial year 2015-16. Please see paragraph three and subsequent table (counter-ISIL) at the link below:

[http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons\\_committees\\_defence/No2-Estimated-Memoranda160702\\_MoD\\_2015-16\\_MainEstimates/Item14sum.pdf](http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons_committees_defence/No2-Estimated-Memoranda160702_MoD_2015-16_MainEstimates/Item14sum.pdf)

Historical expenditure information on the net additional costs of military operations, previously referred to as NACMO, is published and updated on Gov.uk at the following links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/expenditure-departmental-arms-services-2015>

[please see page 11 of the Annual Statistical Bulletin and Table 6a of the accompanying excel tables]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-defence-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015>

[please see Table 2.3.1 on page 51].

Net additional costs are defined as the costs which would not have been incurred had the operation not taken place. Net additional costs exclude pay and pensions, for example, as these would be paid regardless of whether there is an operation or not. The Treasury use the net additional costs to determine what the MOD can claim back from the Special Reserve.

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, 1<sup>st</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.org.uk>.

I hope you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Resources Secretariat