



# Ministry of Defence

Joint Forces Command Headquarters  
Northwood Headquarters  
Northwood, Middlesex  
HA6 3HP  
United Kingdom

Our Ref: FOI2015/00335

E-mail: JFC-HQsecretariat@mod.uk

Your Ref:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

06 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 8th January 2015 requesting the following information:

*"Could you please confirm how many service personnel have been deployed such that their duties involve acting as the PM's photographer and how many days in total service staff had been unable to perform normal duties due to this deployment, including travelling time.*

*I would also like to know under whose command these personnel fall while on such duty and whether this entails additional redeployment from normal duties of these commanders.*

*I would also like to know which Department picks up any expenses for service personnel incurred travelling from base and back plus trips with the PM on photographic duties."*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

A military photographer is regularly seconded from the Ministry of Defence to the Cabinet Office and is tasked with taking photographs of the activities undertaken by Cabinet Ministers, including those conducted by the Prime Minister. Five individual photographers have been assigned to this duty in rotation since it began in February 2013. The photographer remains under the command of the Joint Media Operations Centre, which coordinates the deployment of Service photographers and, as such, the attachment to the Cabinet Office is a normal duty. Expenses incurred during the conduct of the photographer's duties are reimbursed by the Cabinet Office.

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>.

Yours sincerely,

JFC HQ Secretariat