



Ministry
of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
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www.gov.uk/DIO

January 2016

Ref. FOI2015/11458

Dear

Thank you for your email of 4 December 2015 requesting the following information:

- “1. Does the MOD have plans to install EMAS arrestor beds at RAF Northolt? Has any such application been received?”*
- 2. If the MOD does plan to install EMAS arrestor beds at RAF Northolt, have they earmarked the expenditure for that undertaking? If so, how much money has been set aside for the project?”*

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 some information in scope of your request is held. Some of the information you have requested can be found below:

1. Yes, the MOD does have plans to install EMAS arrestor beds at RAF Northolt.
2. The information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 43 (Commercial Interests) of the FOIA. Section 43 is a qualified exemption and is subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that, overall, the public interest is best served in not releasing any non formalised financial details and for these reasons I have set the level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the higher level of “would” rather than “would be likely to”.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat

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 DIO Secretariat 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.org.uk>.