



Ministry
of Defence

Headquarters Surgeon General Secretariat
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Ref: FOI2015/03769

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11 May 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request dated 13 April 2015 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in which you asked the following:

"In the case of a member of the Army Reserves who has an Occupational Health issue in relation to his or her role/duties/tasks in the Reserves (as opposed to his or her civilian employment), which organisation(s) is/are responsible for seeking resolution of such an issue?"

(By Occupational Health issue, I mean a situation in which the service person has a medical or physical condition which does not impact to any real extent on civilian employment but which does, because of a higher standard applied within the military environment, impact on the military function; by resolution, I mean action which could be taken to reduce or eliminate the issue, from the military employment perspective.)

Secondly, where such responsibilities are identified, what policy and guidance documents refer?"

Your enquiry has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 and the MOD can confirm that it holds information within the scope of your enquiry.

In response to the first point raised the majority of occupational health conditions are treated by the NHS however, from 1 Apr 14 the White Paper [Reserves in the Future Force 2020, Valuable and Valued](#) enabled the Defence Medical Services to provide rehabilitation to treat Service attributable injuries.

If a Reservist's condition is a primary healthcare issue such as diabetes or raised blood pressure, the NHS will provide treatment. Defence Primary Health Care (DPHC) is responsible for awarding a medical grade to ensure the condition is not exacerbated.

Mental health conditions attributed to Service will be treated by Departments of Community Mental Health as part of the Veterans' and Reserves' Mental Health Programme.

Policy documents and guidance that refer to this include the White Paper mentioned above; single Services Reserves Regulations; and DPHC Guidance Note HQ DPHC/08/14, copies of which will be made available upon request.

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 the Headquarters of the Surgeon General 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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 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 FOIA. 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,

Headquarters of the Surgeon General