



Ministry  
of Defence

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1 February 2016

Thank you for your email dated 3 December 2015 requesting the following information:

*"Please could you supply information regarding the following please .*

*1- Percentage of soldiers that have got medical discharged from 2008 to Dec 2015 that have been awarded item 1,2,3,4,5,6 under the mental health ( PTSD) table 3 .*

*2- Percentage of soldiers that have been given an interim payment on the above question then waited 2 years for final award only to be given another interim payment for 2 years*

*3- Percentage of soldiers that have been given a final award on item 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 table 3 from 2008 to Dec 2015"*

Following the MOD's request that you clarify your response, you confirmed in your email dated 7 January 2015 that you are requesting the following information (please note that amendments to your original request are highlighted in bold):

*"1- Percentage of **service personnel** that have got medical discharged from 2008 to Dec 2015 that have been awarded item 1,2,3,4,5,6 under the **AFCS mental health table 3** .*

*2- Percentage of **service personnel** that have been given an interim payment on the above question then waited 2 years for final award only to be given another interim payment for 2 years.*

*3- Percentage of **service personnel** that have been given a final award on item 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 table 3 from 2008 to Dec 2015"*

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 the information in scope of your request is held by the MOD.

Information on personnel who were awarded an interim payment under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) then waited two years for a final award only to be given another interim payment is held by the MOD. However, only that latest claim outcome is captured on the database used to hold AFCS data. Therefore it is only possible to determine the latest award outcome for each claim.

I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request would involve extracting data from computer systems and recalling individual claim forms to identify the requested information. The work involved would take over 92 man days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working

days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the following:

The following information is readily available and could be provided within FOI cost limits:

- The number and percentage of Service personnel that have been medically discharged from Service between 1 January 2008 and 31 March 2015 (the latest medical discharge data available) that have also been awarded compensation under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme under the Mental Health Tariff of Injury table (Table 3) as at 30 September 2015 (the latest AFCS data available).
- The number of all Service personnel that have been awarded compensation under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme under the Mental Health Tariff of Injury table (Table 3), of which the number that had an interim award for at least one mental health condition, as at 30 September 2015 (the latest AFCS data available).

Please note that Service personnel can be medically discharged for injury/illness that is not caused by Service and therefore not all medically discharged Service personnel will be eligible to have a compensation claim considered under the AFCS. In addition it is not possible to determine whether it is the same injury/illness that led to medical discharge that has been considered under the AFCS for compensation.

Defence Statistics release annual updates on medical discharges in the UK Armed Forces as an Official Statistic publication. In accordance with the Code of Practice for the release of National/Official Statistics we are unable to provide the data for 2015/16 prior to the next statistical release, due in July 2016, as set out in the Statistics and Registration Service Act, 2007. The latest report can be found on the Gov.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medical-discharges-among-uk-service-personnel-statistics-index>

Defence Statistics also publishes a biannual Official Statistic that provides summary statistics on claims and awards made under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme, paying compensation for injury, illness or death caused by Service. This is published on the Gov.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-index>. In accordance with the Code of Practice for the release of National/Official Statistics we are unable to provide the data beyond 30 September 2015 prior to the next statistical release, due in June 2016, as set out in the Statistics and Registration Service Act, 2007.

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, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely

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