



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services

Room F10
Innsworth House
Imjin Barracks
Gloucester
GL13 1HW

DBS/SEC/FOI2015/04125

E-mail: DBS RES-Secretariat (MULTIUSER)

April 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 9 March to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) seeking information about Medical Examination administration. Your email has been treated as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You stated:

"Your response indicated that it used to be the practise for claimants to read through their statement once the assessor had completed it and to then point out any mistakes that they had made and to get them to correct it.

Please inform me when this practise ceased to be? Why it ceased? And to provide me with the genuine documented evidence relating to the above"

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. I am therefore, unable to confirm exactly when the requirement for the examining doctor to read back the statement to a claimant ceased. However, I can confirm that on 26 September 2013 a request was made, as part of a contract review, that a sentence should be put back into the *Veterans UK Handbook for Examining Doctors* that read:

- "a statement signed and dated by the Claimant in their presence"


AND

- "The supplier must complete the first part of the form after discussion with the Claimant and ensure the Claimant signs and dates the declaration in their presence"

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, 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>.

Yours sincerely,

A thick black horizontal bar redacting the signature of the sender.A thick black horizontal bar redacting the name of the sender.
DBS Secretariat