



Ministry
of Defence

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DE&S Secretariat

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Our Reference:
FOI2015/07017

Date: 6 Oct 2015

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email of 7 August 2015 which requested the following information:

Could you please supply details of the Chief of Defence Materiel's (a) salary, (b) hotel costs, (c) air fares, (d) rail fares, (e) taxi fares, (f) use of official car and driver and (g) any other benefits-in-kind accrued since his appointment on 4 January 2011.

I am treating your email as a request for information under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

The following information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOI Act as it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

- Salary details of senior Ministry of Defence officials, including the Chief of Defence Materiel (CDM), are published online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mod-organisation-charts>.
- As part of the Government's Transparency Agenda, details of CDM's expenses from January 2011 until March 2012 are published online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/senior-staff-business-expenses>.

Information covering the period from April 2012 to June 2014 has not been published and, due to its age, is now no longer planned for official publication. Information covering CDM's expenses during this period is therefore provided in the table below.

Financial year	Expenses by type (£)				
	Official car*	Air	Rail	Taxi/Car	Accommodation /Meals
April 2012 – March 2013	41,876	9,807	89	1,223	1,397

Financial year	Expenses by type (£)				
	Official car*	Air	Rail	Taxi/Car	Accommodation /Meals
April 2013 – March 2014	43,202	7,790	1,011	495	1,689
April 2014 – June 2014	-	12,524	589	-	951
April 2014 – March 2015	56,498*	-	-	-	-

*The figure includes the car's full operating cost, including the lease charge for the vehicle, estimated fuel consumption, the cost of employment of the driver and the value of the tax liability paid by the Department for permitted private use (benefits-in-kind).

**This figure represents the total amount for CDM's official car use for April 2014 – March 2015. Due to changes in reporting requirements, the MOD is not now planning to publish the 2014-15 official car use figure under the Transparency Agenda, so the full-year figure is provided here.

In relation to your point (g), the only benefits-in-kind accrued by CDM are those relating to his use of an official car and this value is incorporated in the official car use figure above. However, you may also wish to note that figures relating specifically to benefits-in-kind are published in the MOD Annual Report and Accounts at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mod-annual-reports>.

CDM's expenses from July 2014 onwards (aside from official car use), are still due to be published as part of the Transparency Agenda. Therefore, this information falls within scope of the qualified exemption provided for at Section 22 (Future Publication) of the FOI Act and has therefore been withheld.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and is subject to a public interest test. This means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Section 22(1)(a) has been applied to this information as it is in the process of being prepared for publication by the MOD. The balance of public interest was found to be in favour of withholding the information given that the requested information is held with the planned intention of releasing it into the public domain on the gov.uk website in accordance with Cabinet Office publication dates.

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,

