



Ministry
of Defence

[Redacted]
Policy Secretariat

Defence Equipment and Support
Maple 0a, #2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol
BS34 8JH



DESSec-FOI@mod.uk

[Redacted]

Your Reference:

Our Reference:
FOI2015/02010
Date:
16th March 2015

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email of 19th February 2015 requesting the following information:

“Can the Department provide figures on the annual cost of answering FOI requests asking for data on ex MOD vehicles, chiefly MERLIN reports, during financial years 2012/13 and 2013/14?

How many such requests were received by the Department in each of the two years mentioned above”.

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 of the information in scope of your request is held. The number of requests received and an estimate of costs is in the table below:

FY	Number	Time (Hrs)	Rate (£/hr)	TOTAL (£)
2012-13	102	0.5	25	1,275
2013-14	273	0.5	25	3,413
Overall Total	375			4,688

Under Section 16 of the FOIA (the provision of Advice and Assistance) you may wish to know that we have made the following assumptions:

Assumptions

Time (Hrs): It is estimated that it takes 30 minutes (or 0.5 of an hour) to process each request, from commencing the search to sending the report and its covering letter to the applicant.

Rate (£/hr): The FOIA allows for an appropriate limit of £600 for each request. This equates to a flat rate of £25 per person, per hour.

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

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.