



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Ref: [REDACTED]

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Email: [REDACTED]

8 June 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 24 May 2015 requesting the following information:

"I am writing to request an update on the proposed new long service medal for regular armed forces. I am requesting a schedule for its implementation and also information on when it will be approved if it has not been already. Finally I request to know if the design of the medal itself has been commissioned "

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. The bullet points below summarise the current situation

- The recommendation is that the medal will be known as 'The Regular Forces Long Service Medal';
- A paper will be presented to the next HD Committee meeting seeking their approval, and that of Her Majesty The Queen, for the concept of the medal;
- When approval is received, the Royal Mint will be asked to begin the medal design process;
- Alongside this the MOD will continue to work on the detailed criteria for the medal, and this will need to be approved by the Chiefs of Staff and Secretary of State;
- Once received, the criteria and medal design will need further approval from the HD Committee and Her Majesty;
- Upon receipt of approval the MOD Medal Office can start the tender process, which under European Law will take 6 months;
- It is anticipated that the first medals will be available for presentation by the end of 2016.

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,

Defence People Secretariat