

Ref: FOI2015/04501

Headquarters Surgeon General Secretariat Coltman House, Defence Medical Services Whittington, Lichfield, Staffordshire WS14 9PY

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16 Jun 2015

Dear

Thank you for your telephone call of 21 May 2015 requesting the following information:

Is the Ministry of Defence a Relevant Health Provider according to the statutory definition in the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, and the NHS Act 2006, Section 244, Regulation 20?

As the Ministry of Defence (MOD) does not provide care to non-entitled civilian persons residing in the local authority area, it is not a Relevant Health Provider in accordance with the statutory definition in the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 and in the NHS Act 2006 Section 244, Regulation 20. MOD is not required to register with the Care Quality Commission (CQC): it does, however, adhere to the principles laid down by the Health & Social Care Act. The CQC has previously, by invitation, provided external third party assurance to the Defence Medical Services, and has been requested by the Surgeon General to do so again in the near future.

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 the Headquarters of the Surgeon General 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 Deputy Chief Information Officer, 2nd 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 FOIA. 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.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Headquarters of the Surgeon General