



Ministry of Defence

Air Command Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

Our Ref: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

16 April 2015

Thank you for your email dated 17 March 2015 requesting the following information:

The total number of individuals who have had a debt raised against them as a consequence of the review carried out.

The total debt that has been raised as a consequence of the review carried out.

The total cost so far of this entire review, from the beginning of 2012, up to now. This will include the AIP focal group set up at Imijin Barracks in 2012 to review all RAF AIPs, all of the work carried out by individual HRs reviewing AIPs, any work carried out at Ministerial level, and any work carried out by the treasury while it was reviewing the case.

The projected cost of this recovery, from the beginning of 2012, including any projected costs for appeals submitted, and the time taken to process them. If costs for appeals or any legal action that may be raised have not been projected, would you please state this.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information within the scope of your request is held. I will answer each part of your request in turn.

As of 1 April 2015 the total number of individuals who have had a debt raised against them is 1353; this includes serving and non serving personnel. The total debt figure is £1.15M.

Information on the total cost of the review from the beginning of 2012 and the projected recovery costs are not held.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) I can tell you that pay issues are considered normal day to day business for focal points and unit HR sections. Furthermore, there is a team in the Defence Business Services permanently assigned to deal with the recovery of pay and allowances including overpayments from Military personnel, Civilian personnel and Veterans Pay, Allowances and Pensions. Therefore, issues such as the AIP overpayment would not require additional personnel or resources.

You may find it useful to know that Section 1 of the FOIA gives an applicant the right to recorded information held by public authorities at the time the request is made and does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless recorded information is held.

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,

[Original signed]

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.