



Ministry  
of Defence

MARK LANCASTER TD MP  
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE AND  
MINISTER FOR DEFENCE PERSONNEL AND VETERANS

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MSU/4/4/2/6/DH  
Our ref: D/S of S/MF FOI2016/00577e

8<sup>th</sup> February 2016

1) [redacted] [redacted]

Following my letter of acknowledgement of your request for information, my officials have completed their search for information and I am pleased to provide the answers to your questions.

I can confirm that no candidates have been recruited into the British Army with a known peanut allergy. This is a bar to recruitment under Joint Service Publication 950 'Medical Policy' which sets out the Medical Employment Standards Policy on Immune system disorders Anaphylaxis and Allergy. The policy states that a past history of an immediate hypersensitivity reaction, regardless of trigger, is graded Unfit for Service. This includes anaphylaxis to triggers such as nuts.

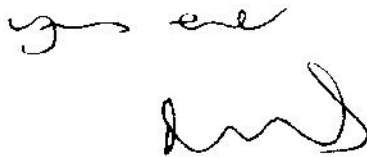
With regards to the number of Army personnel currently serving with an allergy to peanuts, I can tell you that 35 personnel have been identified as having a code for peanut allergy in their primary care record.

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 respond to 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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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.

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
Communities and Pensioners' Rights  
Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
Regent Road  
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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>.

I hope this information is helpful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Lancaster', written in a cursive style.

**MARK LANCASTER TD MP**