



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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Ref. 2016-09186

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Via Email [REDACTED]

26 October 2016

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 4 October 2016 which clarified an earlier request on problems with the propulsion systems of Royal Navy Type 45 Destroyers in the wording set out below:

When was it accepted that the Type 45 engines needed modification? Why did it take so long?

Why was, as claimed by the equipment providers, the Type 45 engines not ordered with the capability to sustain operations in "hot" climates?

So I am indeed asking, inter alia, whether the engines were ordered with the capability to operate in hot climates?'

Your enquiry is considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that information within scope of your request is held.

With regard to your first two queries (when was it accepted that the Type 45 engines needed modification and why did it take so long?) this information was provided by the MOD in written evidence to the House of Commons Defence Committee in March 2016, which also set out the steps being taken to address the issue. Under section 21 of the FOI Act – information accessible to the applicant by other means – I can direct you to where this evidence is published on the Parliament website and it can be reached via this hyperlink:

<http://data.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/committeeevidence.svc/evidencedocument/defence-committee/naval-procurement-type-26-and-type-45/written/35189.html>

As the information you requested is already available to the public we are not obliged to provide you with a copy of it.

Regarding your further query about operation in "hot" climates, the MOD has made clear that the Type 45 Destroyers were designed for worldwide operations, from sub-Arctic to extreme tropical environments, and continue to operate effectively in the Persian Gulf and South Atlantic at all times of the year having been designed to defence standards to meet this requirement. What we have found is that elements of the system, when exposed to high temperatures, instead of reducing power output and degrading gracefully, were shutting down resulting in loss of power and that is what we have had to address.

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, Zone K 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://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Navy Command - FOI Section