



Ministry of Defence

Defence Resources Secretariat
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

E-mail [REDACTED]

13 July 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Your correspondence dated 27 April 2016 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You requested the following information:

This request relates to fruitless payments of over £50,000 made by your department.

For each of the following financial years (i) 2014/15 and (ii) 2015/16, please provide the following information in relation to each such payment:

- a) The sum involved.*
- b) What the payment was for.*
- c) The recipient of the payment.*
- d) The date of the payment.*
- e) An explanation of why the fruitless payment was made.*
- f) An explanation of why the payment was fruitless*
- g) Whether any disciplinary investigation was instigated and, if so, the outcome in terms of whether any disciplinary action was taken.*

Please find in the table below details of fruitless payments over £50,000 but below £300,000 for 2014/15. The table includes information where the total sum is calculated on a number of individual payments over £50,000 but below £300,000.

a) Sum Involved	b) What was Payment for	c) Recipient of payment	d) Date of Payment	e) Why Fruitless Payment was made	f) Why the payment was Fruitless	g) Disciplinary action
£103,500	Spectator Seating Stands	KL Spectator Seating	Aug 10 loss occurred. Written off Apr 14.	Two stands were purchased and transported to ITC Catterick	It became apparent that the stands were not safe to use	None. Down to lack of SQEP.
£842,961	4 x Military Charter Flights	Air Charter Services PLC	Jun 14 loss occurred. Written off Jan 15.	Flights were booked so costs incurred.	Lack of diplomatic clearance for UK troops under training by Kenyan Government so exercise had to be cancelled.	None. This was a Government level political decision to reject diplomatic clearance
£322,000	Property Rent	Annington Homes	4 quarterly payments	Pay rents for various reasons	properties have been knocked through to provide a larger residence, we continue to pay for two properties, or have been demolished for structural reasons among others	None as these were estate management decisions

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information on fruitless payments over £300,000 for 2014/15. The information is exempt under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. It is already in the public domain and can be accessed via the links below:

[MOD Annual Report and Accounts 2014/15 \(see page 173\)](#)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/482895/19_MOD_ARAc_combined_at_02_Dec_2015_for_print.pdf

I can confirm that the Department holds information in scope of your request for fruitless payments over £300,000 for 2015/16. The information is exempt under Section 22 of the FOIA because the information is intended for publication at a future date.

This information will be published in the MOD Annual Report and Accounts 2015/16 which, when published will be available via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications>

Data of fruitless payments over £50,000 but below £300,000 for 2015/16 is not yet available because it is still being collated and scrutinised.

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, 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 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>.

I hope you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Resources Secretariat