

Our Ref: FOI2015/06747

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

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26 August 2015

Dear

Thank you for your e-mail of 28th July 2015 requesting the following information:

- 1. Total staffing cost of marketing, external communications and press offices for the year 2014/15.
- 2. Total spending by marketing, external communications and press offices for the year 2014/15.
- 3. Total spending on ministerial cars in 2014/15.
- 4. Total spending on furnishings for ministerial offices in 2014/15.
- 5. Total spending on furnishings for ministerial offices since April 2015 (i.e. 2015/16 to date).

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

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

1. Total staffing cost of marketing, external communications and press offices for the year 2014/15.

The total staffing outturn for all communications (including marketing, press offices, internal and external communications) for the Ministry of Defence excluding trading funds for the financial year (FY) 2014-15 was £30.1 million.

2. Total spending by marketing, external communications and press offices for the year 2014/15.

The total outturn all communications (including marketing, press offices, internal and external communications) for the Ministry of Defence excluding trading funds for the financial year (FY) 2014-15 was £82.8 million. This figure includes salaries, and advertising and marketing for the Armed Forces.

3. Total spending on ministerial cars in 2014/15.

Information not held. Road transport for the Secretary of State for Defence is normally provided by the Metropolitan Police. The Junior Defence Ministers have given up their cars with a dedicated driver to reduce costs and share central MOD pool vehicles with senior staff working in the MOD

Main Building. These vehicles are for duty travel in accordance with the Ministerial Code where an official car is the most appropriate form of transport.

4. Total spending on furnishings for ministerial offices in 2014/15.

There was no spending by the Ministry of Defence on furnishings for ministerial offices for the FY 2014/15.

5. Total spending on furnishings for ministerial offices since April 2015 (i.e. 2015/16 to date).

There has been no spending by the Ministry of Defence on furnishings for minister offices since April 2015.

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, http://www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

DDC Secretariat Parliamentary