



Ministry of Defence

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

Ref. 2016/07921

[REDACTED]

19 September 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your e-mail of 18 August 2016 asking for helicopter Search and Rescue (SAR) costs. You requested the following information:

".....the annual cost (FY14/15) of the helicopter search and rescue capability within the RN/RAF prior to privatisation this year."

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We have now completed a search of our paper and electronic records for the information you requested and I can confirm that information within the scope of your request is held.

SAR helicopter capability costs for Financial Year 2014/15 were some £34 Million. This covers SAR Force Headquarters and SAR units from the RAF and Royal Navy and includes pay and allowances, infrastructure, stock and consumables, equipment support and income.

If you are not satisfied with this response or 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>.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Secretariat 3a1
Air Command