



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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United Kingdom

Ref: XXXXXXXXXX

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15 March 2016

Dear XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Thank you for your correspondence received on 2 March of 21 requesting the following information:

"I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information regards The Defence sports & recreational association (DSRA) participation in the 2015 RAAM:

- 1. Did the member of DSRA staff (XXXXXXXXXX) that secured a place on the 2015 DSRA RAAM team and competed in the race, do so whilst on duty, during work time or whilst on special leave?
2. Did any of the members of DSRA RAAM team, either riders or support team participate in the RAAM whilst on duty, during work time or on special leave?
3. How much did the entire DSRA RAAM expedition cost?
4. How much did each team member, pay towards the cost of the expedition? Please state whether rider, support team or DSRA staff.

Please provide the information in the form of a printed paper reply."

This has been considered as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act) and I can confirm that the MOD does hold information within scope of your request.

I will answer each part of your request in order:

- 1. Did the member of DSRA staff (XXXXXXXXXXXX) that secured a place on the 2015 DSRA RAAM team and competed in the race, do so whilst on duty, during work time or whilst on special leave?

In answer to part one of your request I have to advise that we are unable to provide information you requested as this is considered exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the FOI Act (personal information – contravention of data protection principles). This is an absolute exemption, which does not require a Public Interest Test (PIT).

- 2. Did any of the members of DSRA RAAM team, either riders or support team participate in the RAAM whilst on duty, during work time or on special leave?

In answer to part two of your request I have to advise that we are unable to provide information you requested as this is considered exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the FOI Act (personal information – contravention of data protection principles). This is an absolute exemption, which does not require a Public Interest Test (PIT).

You may wish to note the advice all members were given was that special leave was not appropriate and that they should use annual leave/flexi leave.

3. How much did the entire DSRA RAAM expedition cost?

The cost to DSRA of the trip was £22,500. You may wish to note 100% was from DSRA funds. No public money is spent on DSRA events and initiatives with money deriving solely from internal fundraising.

4. How much did each team member, pay towards the cost of the expedition? Please state whether rider, support team or DSRA staff.

In answer to part four of your request I have to advise that we are unable to provide information you requested as this is considered exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the FOI Act (personal information – contravention of data protection principles). This is an absolute exemption, which does not require a Public Interest Test (PIT).

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,

Defence People Secretariat