



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom
Telephone : +44 (0)20 721 89000

Our Reference: FOI2016/03698

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

26 April 2016

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated 26 March in which you requested the following information:

- 1) Who is the new Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Military Strategy & Operations) in succession to Lt. General Gordon Messenger?
- 2) When was this individual appointed?
- 3) If he was a 2-star before, when was he promoted to 3-star rank?

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. Following a search of our records, I can confirm that the MOD does hold information within the scope of your request.

Lieutenant General Messenger's successor is Lieutenant General Carleton-Smith and he was appointed on 10 February 2016. He was promoted to 3* rank in April 2016.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

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>.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Defence People Secretariat