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Thank you for your email of 25 January 2016 requesting the following information:

Under the FOI Act could you provide me with the amount spent by the Ministry of Defence on external recruitment agencies and headhunters.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act). In regard to your request, the information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA, because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. It is already in the public domain at the following links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/411621/20150310 MOD_External_Recruitment_Agencies_001.pdf

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/487686/1_May_201_5B.pdf

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 FOI