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Dear

Thank you for your email of 21 June in which you requested the following information:

"In British Forces Germany, the children of serving personnel are transported to and from SCE schools. Could you please tell me the total annual cost of this service?"

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

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

The total cost of school transportation for entitled children in British Forces Germany for financial year 2016/2017 was €2,356,403.70.

Under section 16 of the FOIA – advice and assistance – it might be helpful to explain that British Forces Germany provides daily transport for over 1600 children of service and civilian personnel to six schools in North Rhine-Westphalia. This includes a total of 49 routine bus routes, as well as the transportation of children for both curricular and extracurricular activities.

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, Ground 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, <a href="https://ico.org.uk">https://ico.org.uk</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Disclosure and Litigation Leader