



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Defence Business Services Secretariat
Room 6303
Tomlinson House
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Thornton-Cleveleys
FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2017/09204

Email: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod

[REDACTED]

13 October 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

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

“Please could you tell me how many diffuse mesothelioma lump sum payments under Schedule 1A to the Naval, Military and Air Forces etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (as amended) have been made?”

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

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

Since 16 December 2015 veterans who had been diagnosed with diffuse mesothelioma, as a result of exposure to asbestos due to their service in the Armed Forces have been entitled to receive a lump sum payment of up to £140,000 instead of receiving an on-going disablement pension.

As at 10 October 2017, 157 ex-Service personnel diagnosed with mesothelioma had elected to receive the lump sum payment instead of receiving a regular disablement pension.

These figures are published on an annual basis at the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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 should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the

Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Business Services