



# Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

Telephone : +44 (0)20 721 89000

Our Reference: FOI2017/02694

Reply to: [REDACTED]

28 February 2017

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 26 February 2017 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

*"I would like to ask how and why the eligibility date of 29 July 2014 for officers to qualify for the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was arrived at."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. Following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that the information you requested is held by the MOD.

The 29 July 2014 date was chosen as it was the date that the Written Ministerial Statement was laid in the House of Lords, announcing the end of Sir John Holmes' Medal Review, and that Minister's had "agreed that the eligibility requirements for the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, which is currently awarded only to other ranks and not to officers, should be harmonised for the future." The 29 July 2014 date was subsequently agreed by the Chiefs of Staff, MOD Minister's, the HD Committee and Her Majesty The Queen.

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, Zone D, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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