



Ministry of Defence

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03 October 2017

Ref. FOI2017/09033

Dear Sirs

Thank you for your letter of 14 September 2017, following our letter to you dated 17 August 2017, requesting the following information:

*"1. In which year the asbestos register for HMS Collingwood was created;
2. Our client carried out work at HMS Collingwood in 1987. Could you please confirm whether you keep asbestos registers for previous years and if so whether you can provide the asbestos register for 1987?"*

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 (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

Our current contractor only holds asbestos records going back to 2004. Any previous documents from the 1980s and 1990s would have been destroyed many years ago. We understand the first asbestos record held by our contractor for HMS Collingwood is dated 29 April 2004 and surveys would have been carried out then.

Any asbestos survey should have taken in to account previous surveys, but as we have no records of such surveys preceding 2004, we have no way of knowing for sure if this information existed, or was taken into account during the surveys undertaken in 2004.

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 faithfully,

DIO Secretariat