



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

Ref: [REDACTED]

Email: [DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk](mailto:DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk)

[REDACTED]

F012017/04716

16 May 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 13 April 2017 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

*"How many invoices have been submitted in each month since the changeover in the MoD bill payment system (28 Oct 2016)*

*How many of the invoices submitted each month were paid within the payment terms in the contract*

*How many invoices paid each month were delayed by more than one month".*

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 some of the information in scope of your request is held. For the purposes of the response, the Ministry of Defence have used the 'invoice received date' in order to calculate the number of invoices submitted in each month in scope of your request.

The table below shows the number of invoices received in each month since the start of cut-over to the Contracting, Purchasing and Finance (CP&F) system on 28 October 2016, the number of invoices paid within the statutory 30 days and the number of invoices delayed by more than one month.

Month/Year	Number of invoices received	Paid within 30 days from invoice	Paid over 30 days from invoice
November 2016	7,051	7,046	5
December 2016	119,441	88,578	30,863
January 2017	172,048	129,548	42,500
February 2017	137,278	107,127	30,151
March 2017	254,254	253,008	1,246
April 2017*	102,829	102,823	6

\* as of 24 April 2017

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) the Ministry of Defence cannot comment on individual contract payment terms as they could be slightly different.

The MOD is committed to paying its suppliers as promptly as possible. We recognise the impact that late payments have on suppliers and have worked hard to ensure that performance returned to and ultimately surpassed previous levels. During the transition period to the new CP&F system the MOD experienced delays, however, the system and new processes are working well in many areas and continue to improve.

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](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, <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)