



Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

Reference: FOI2017/12356

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Email to: [REDACTED]

26 January 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 November 2017 requesting detailed guidance regarding information contained in Joint Service Publication 752 (JSP 752).

I apologise for the time taken in replying to your correspondence.

We have treated your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) as you requested. However, the purpose of the FOIA is to provide copies of information such as a copy of JSP 752 rather than to offer explanations in the way you seek. Therefore, I must advise that we do not hold any recorded information regarding your specific questions.

Under Section 16 we are required to provide advice and assistance where possible, therefore I offer the following points for your consideration:

- JSP 752 is intended as a publication which details the regulations for payment of military expenses and allowances and is designed to be used by staff responsible for expense and allowance policy.
- Personnel responsible for the administration and implementation of these regulations are to interpret them reasonably, intelligently and with military judgement considering the aim of each allowance.
- In order to determine eligibility for expenses, allowances and service accommodation, and to ensure the relevant regulations are properly applied, all Service personnel are to declare their Personal Status Category (PStatCat). At any time that a change to their personal circumstances may affect their PStatCat, the Service person is to inform their CO (or authorised representative) of that change.
- Specifically, regarding PStatCat 2:
 - **JSP 01.0303 b** – All of the criteria listed must be met in order for a Service person to be placed in PStatCat 2. It is for the Service person to provide the evidence that they meet all criteria.
 - **JSP 01.0304** – This section offers guidance as to whether the Service person should be regarded as the 'centre of and prime mover in the life of the child' (JSP 752 01.0303 b(1)). It is not intended to be a prescriptive list of points for consideration to which a specific response is required. It provides guidance

to COs/HR staff as to elements that, when taken together, would indicate whether the Service person can be regarded as a 'prime mover'. There are no specific metrics applied – questions are either specific (I.e. receipt of child benefit, maintenance of own home) or they seek to build a picture which can then be used to determine whether the individual should be regarded as the 'prime mover'.

Regarding the section of your correspondence relating to Section 01.0404(b) I should advise that this is not a current or accurate representation of the policy. We have not been able to identify from when it dates but it is certainly pre-2014.

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 People Secretariat FOI