

Ministry of Defence Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/07334

Reply to:

2 August 2017

Dear

Thank you for your email of 20 July 2017 requesting the following information:

"How many illegal immigrants have you employed since 2012? If any, please break down the number by years i.e. 2012, 2013, 2014 and so on. For clarification by employed I mean anyone paid to work on a full-time, part-time, freelance, staff, sub-contractor or consultant basis.

Of those people, if any, please provide where possible the following:
Nationality
Position held/work employed to do
Length of employment"

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

I can advise you that your request is considered exempt under Section 12 of the FOI Act. Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. This limit is specified in FOI regulations and for central Government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending three and a half working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

An initial scoping of your request has identified that a similar but less detailed Parliamentary Question was asked in the House of Commons on 19 January 2017 by Mr Kevan Jones MP. At that time he was advised the information is not held centrally and could be provided only at disproportionate cost.

To assist your enquiry I have placed below a link to the relevant Written question: http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions- answersstatements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60912

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 CIOFOI-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