



Ministry
of Defence

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[REDACTED]

11 May 2018

E-mail address:
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 5 September in which you requested the following information, I apologise for the time taken to respond to your request:

I would like to request a copy of the Army Recruiting Review which was completed by McKinsey to assess the performance of the Recruitment Partnership Project. To clarify, I would like to see the full report if possible and not simply an executive summary.

In my letter of 3 October, I advised that while the MOD holds the information you have requested, some of the information falls within the scope of the following qualified exemption: section 43 of the Act, '*information which is a trade secret or which, if disclosed, would likely prejudice the commercial interest of any person*'. With any qualified exemption, the Department is required to decide where the balance of the public interest lies in releasing or withholding the information, through a public interest test.


I am now writing to confirm that section 43(2) of the act has been applied to the information requested. The balance of the public interest test concluded that while there is a public interest in the transparency of this information, the release of some of the information would prejudice the commercial interest of Defence or its contractors. The balance of the public interest therefore lies in withholding some of the requested information. I have considered it necessary to apply the higher level of prejudice against release of the exempted information at the level of "would" rather than "would be likely to".

The requested information that does not fall within scope of section 43(2) is attached.

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). 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,


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