



Ministry of Defence

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Reference: **FOI2018/15674**

[Redacted]

E-mail: [Redacted]

Date: **10 January 2019**

Dear [Redacted]

Your correspondence dated 07 December 2018 has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). You requested the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information in regards to war funding. I would like to know:

- 1. How much money has been spent on sending British troops to war each year for the last 5 tax years?*
- 2. How many soldiers have been sent out in each of these years?*
- 3. The funding per country we're fighting in.*

Please see the response below.

Question 1:

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information in scope of your request for the four Financial Years (FY) 2013-14 to 2016-17. The information is exempt under Section 21 of the FOIA, because it is reasonably accessible to you by other means. Information on the costs of overseas operations undertaken by UK Armed Forces for these FYs is already in the public domain because it is published in the MODs Annual Report and Accounts which can be accessed via the links below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ministry-of-defence-annual-report-and-accounts-2013-to-2014>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-defence-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-defence-annual-report-and-accounts-2015-to-2016>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ministry-of-defence-annual-report-and-accounts-2016-to-2017>

The Annual Report and Accounts for 2017-18 included a graph rather than a table and so I have provided the information for that year below:

	Afghanistan		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
Non Ring-Fenced	84.9	79.58	69.86
Ring-Fenced			
Total RDEL	84.9	79.58	69.86
Total CDEL			
Total Expenditure	84.9	79.58	69.86

	Wider Gulf		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
	62	55.87	51.29
	62	55.87	51.29
	62	55.87	51.29

	Counter-Daesh		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
Non Ring-Fenced	345.4	312.46	268.33
Ring-Fenced	63.6	49.72	45.27
Total RDEL	409	362.18	313.6
Total CDEL	203	178.85	118.62
Total Expenditure	612	541.03	432.22

	eFP and NATO Reassurance		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
	43.1	33.2	8.4
	43.1	33.2	8.4
	43.1	33.2	8.4

	Deployed Military Activity Pool 1		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
Non Ring-Fenced	25	19.01	19.76
Ring-Fenced			
Total RDEL	25	19.01	19.76
Total CDEL		4.38	2.77
Total Expenditure	25	23.4	22.53

	Conflict, Stability and Security Fund 2		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
	94.05	90.99	86.83
	94.05	90.99	86.83
		0.04	0.42
	94.05	91.03	87.25

	Relief for Hurricane Irma 3	
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18
Non Ring-Fenced	33.84	26.57
Ring-Fenced		
Total RDEL	33.84	26.57
Total CDEL		
Total Expenditure	33.84	26.57

	Total 4		
	Allocation (£m)	Outturn (£m)	Outturn (£m)
	2017-18	2017-18	2016-17
	654.45	591.12	504.47
	63.6	49.72	45.27
	718.05	640.84	549.74
	203	183.27	121.81
	921.05	824.11	671.55

Notes:

1. DMAP - Deployed Military Activity Pool. In FY 17-18 a £25m allocation from the HM Treasury Special Reserve was made available in addition to the MOD funding of the same amount.

The DMAP is a joint HM Treasury and MOD initiative to make available resources to fund the initial and short-term costs of any unforeseen military activity.

In FY 17-18 the DMAP funded elements of counter-Daesh and overseas counter-terrorism, infrastructure repairs at RAF Akrotiri, support to French forces in NW Africa, NATO reassurance activity, KFOR and Naval activity in the Asia Pacific region.

2. The Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) is the Government's mechanism for funding conflict prevention, stabilisation, security and peacekeeping activities, under the strategic direction of the NSC.
3. CSSF funded disaster relief support to the Caribbean Islands damaged in the wake of Hurricane Irma.
4. FY 16-17 restated to reflect movement in operational profile.
5. RDEL stands for Resource Departmental Expenditure Limits and CDEL stands for Capital Departmental Expenditure Limits.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA, public authorities are required to provide advice and assistance while processing FOI requests, and I have therefore included some additional information below that you may find useful.

You asked about "sending British troops to war"; the nature of overseas operations varies and, as well as military operations such as those to defeat Daesh, they include activities to support regional security, peacekeeping and disaster relief, for example.

Costs of operations are described in terms of the net additional costs incurred. These are the costs which the department has incurred because the operation has been undertaken, for example wages and salaries are not included as these were planned expenditure.

CDEL is expenditure on the acquisition of fixed assets, (such as purchase of IT systems or new buildings) Investments in new equipment and infrastructure expenditure that has a life over more than one financial year (equipment and infrastructure).

RDEL is current expenditure such as pay, allowances, and running costs. It also includes the indirect costs of ownership of assets such as depreciation. (day to day spending).

Question 2:

The number of UK Armed Forces deployed on military operations in the last five financial years can be found below:

Number of UK Armed Forces¹ Deployed² in the last 5 financial years

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total	44,370	31,730	21,080	21,190	26,750
RN/RM	7,630	5,840	5,390	4,650	4,640
Army	25,410	15,800	8,080	8,460	13,930
RAF	11,330	10,090	7,610	8,080	8,190

Source: Defence Statistics (Tri-Service)

1. Includes UK Regulars, Gurkhas, Full Time Reserve Service, Mobilised Reservist personnel and Loan Service Personnel.

2. Deployed personnel are Military personnel who are deployed on military operations. Each individual is counted once per financial year even though they may have been deployed multiple times during that period. These deployment figures include personnel aboard the Naval afloat.

3. Personnel deployed prior to the start of the relevant financial year, that have not returned from their deployment at the start of the financial year are not included as being deployed in the financial

year.

4. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10. Where a figure ends in "5" it has been rounded to the nearest 20 to avoid systematic bias. Totals are rounded separately and so may not equal the sums of their rounded parts.

Question 3:

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is not held.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA you may find the following useful.

The cost of operations is not generally recorded by country because activity may be focussed regionally or thematically and, even when a country is identified, it is important to note that some of the activity and therefore the costs will materialise elsewhere.

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/>.

I hope you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Defence Resources Secretariat