



Ministry
of Defence



[REDACTED] LLB(Hons)
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

DESSEC-PolSecLE-JSC-WPNS@mod.gov.uk

Via:
[REDACTED]

Defence Equipment & Support
Maple 0a # 2043
MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



September 6th 2019 Our Ref: FOI2019/09569

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 11th August 2019 requesting the following information:

1. *The number of occasions of which a motor vehicle owned by the Ministry of Defence was misfuelled (Misfuelled defined as a vehicle having the wrong fuel for its engine put into its fuel tank) for each month of the years 2014-2019 (as up to date as possible).*
2. *The total cost of repairing and solving occasions of a motor vehicle owned by the Ministry of Defence was misfuelled for each month of the years 2014-2019 (as up to date as possible).*

*I would like the above information to be provided to me as electric copies emailed to the address:
jack.peter.taylor-smith@gmail.com*

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me as I understand that under the Act, you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please can you direct me to it, with page references and URLs if necessary.

Further to my letter of 13th August 2019, your email of 16th August clarified the request to include:

The classifications for my request would be as follows:

- *Owned: All vehicles bought by, leased by and hired by the Ministry of Defence*
- *Could I have both the information for both combat specific vehicles and non-combat specific vehicles, but separated by those two types in the final data.*

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

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to locate, retrieve and extract information in scope of your request would involve greatly in excess of 3.5 man days of effort.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

In this instance it is difficult for the MOD to suggest how it is possible to reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit in relation to combat specific vehicles. Information on misfuelling is not held centrally. Thousands of records would have to be checked individually to attempt to extract this information and, even if this was done, it is unlikely to provide accurate information. There are 24 separate "reason for work" codes such as damage, failure or modification as well as 27 separate fault groups including engine, fuel/oil leaks or maintenance event. Each record would have to be looked at to determine if there was any recorded information concerning misfuelling. Even in the event of misfuelling it is possible that the problem would only be recorded, for instance, as the part that need repairing or replacing. Regarding vehicles which are leased or hired, it may be possible to supply some information under the Phoenix II contract. Please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

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.gov.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,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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