

The information you have requested can be found below.

How many full-time MoD/British government employees work on manning the hotline?

There are no full-time MOD employees who man the hotline. As not all LECs speak English an interpreter answers calls to the hotline; it also reduces any risk associated with misunderstandings owing to a language barrier. The information is immediately passed to an Investigation Officer (IO); the IO's full-time employment is to investigate all claims, however they may call upon other individuals to assist in the investigation. Interpreter support is provisioned through a service provider.

How many full-time MoD/British government employees work on helping current/former Afghan LECs?

Currently 5 MOD officials are employed full-time in assisting former Afghan LECs both in Afghanistan and in the UK; you should be aware that there are no LECs currently employed by the MOD in Afghanistan. The MOD does not hold information about the number of full-time employees working on assisting former/current LECs in other Government departments.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the Home Office, Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development may be able to assist you with your questions; their contact emails for FOIs are foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, foi-dpa.pmcs@fco.gov.uk and foi@dfid.gov.uk.

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,

PJHQ J9 FOI Secretariat