



Ministry  
of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2019/02502

E-mail: DSA-Enquiries@mod.gov.uk

28 February 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 25 February requesting the following information:

"I would like to receive a copy of the Service Board Inquiry into the loss of Hercules C4 (C-130J-30), serial ZH873, at Irbil airport."

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of the qualified exemption at section 22 (Information Intended for Future Publication) of the FOIA.

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and is subject to public interest testing which means that the information requested can only be withheld if the public interest in doing so outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Section 22 has been applied as the Service Inquiry report is currently undergoing the staffing process with the intention of proactively publishing in the public domain.

The outcome of the balance of the public interest test concluded that the premature release would not allow the Department to fully complete staffing procedures and would provide no additional benefit to the public.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that once published the Service Inquiry report can be found via Gov.uk at the following link.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/service-inquiry-si>

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 us in the first instance at the address above. 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](mailto: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 normally 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, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely

DSA Secretariat