



UK Hydrographic Office

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REF: FOI201913030

13 December 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter November 2019 requesting the following information:

“Can you confirm sunset/moon phases for 04/09/2002 Margate Beach (Kent) detailing civil, nautical and astronomical twilight”

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 UKHO, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below.

Margate beach is located at approximately 1° 23' East and 51° 23' North. At this location, on the 4th September 2002 the Moon rose at 0157 BST, when it was 12.7% illuminated, and set at 1850 BST, at 8.3% illumination. It was a waning crescent moon, being close to the new moon on 7th Sept 2002. The Sun set at 1934 BST.

If the lighting conditions are what are of interest, the times of civil, nautical and astronomical twilight may be of use. Briefly, during civil twilight terrestrial objects to be clearly distinguished (for example artificial lighting is unnecessary for usual outdoor activities such as ball games) and during Nautical twilight, the horizon can be seen at sea. Once astronomical twilight ends the Sun no longer contributes to any sky illumination.

At 1° 23' East and 51° 23' North:

*Astronomical twilight ended at: 2136 BST (Sun is 18° below the horizon)
Nautical twilight ended at 2051 BST (Sun is 12° below the horizon)
Civil Twilight ended at 2009 BST (Sun is 6° below the horizon)
Sunset occurred at 1934 BST*

Further information can be found at our web service http://astro.ukho.gov.uk/surfbn/first_beta.cgi and should a Section 9 statement of witness be required from us, this can be requested for a fee.

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, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

UKHO Secretariat