



Ministry of Defence

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30 January 2020

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email of 9 January in which you asked for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information about the British army's role in the recruitment of Gurkhas in Nepal for service in the Gurkha Contingent Singapore Police Force:

- 1. Is this recruitment still governed by the 1959 understanding between UK and Singapore, or has that been superseded by a more recent agreement? If so, please inform me of the name and year of this agreement.
2. How much has it cost in the last three financial years to facilitate the recruitment of Gurkhas in Nepal for service in the Gurkha Contingent Singapore Police Force, broken down by year; and who pays for this recruitment process i.e. the UK or Singapore?

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

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence holds this information which is detailed below:

- 1. The current agreement is: Gurkha Contingent Singapore Police Force (GCSPF) Agreed Operating Procedures (AOP) dated 21 October 2003.
2. Costs charged to the GCSPF over the previous three years are:

Table with 2 columns: Financial Year, Charge. Rows: 16/17 (£167,702.00), 17/18 (£280,881.00), 18/19 (£372,856.00)

Under Section 16 of the FOIA to provide advice and assistance I can tell you that recruiting for GCSPF is conducted alongside recruiting for British Army Gurkhas. Singapore police pay a proportion of the costs of recruiting based on the numbers that they take and any costs incurred that are wholly attributable to GCSPF.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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 FOIA. 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,

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