



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Business Services

Secretariat Team Drafter

Room 6303

Tomlinson House

Norcross

Thornton Cleveleys

Lancashire

FY5 3WP

REF:FOI2019-13751

E-mail: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

Ms [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

5 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email dated 27 December 2019, requesting the following:

I wish to request information about the number of Summer Diversity Interns working at the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in 2017, who received communication that stated that their salary was overpaid.

Specifically, I would like information on:

- 1. The number of emails, letters or invoices sent out to Summer Diversity Interns who worked at the Ministry of Defence in 2017, which requested they repay money from the salaries they received.*
- 2. The number of such interns who were sent such communication and did not pay the requested sum of money.*
- 3. Any reasons outlined by such interns for not paying the requested sum of money.*
- 4. The number of cases of overpayment; how many of the overpayment requests did not accurately calculate the amount due from such interns and how many did?*
- 5. The number of and the reasons that the overpayment requests did not accurately calculate the money due from such interns.*
- 6. The number of such interns who were contacted stating that legal action may be taken if payment was not made within a given time period.*

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 all the information in scope of your request is held. I will answer your request in the order that you requested the information:

1. There were 18 pieces of correspondence sent out to Summer Interns who worked within the Ministry of Defence during 2017, which requested that they repay money relating to an overpayment of salary.
2. There were 17 interns who were sent such communication and less than five did not pay the requested sum of money.
3. The reason for the non-payment is not held.
4. There were fewer than five cases of overpayment calculated incorrectly
5. Fewer than five of the cases of overpayment calculated incorrectly, were due to Pension contribution refund and annual leave payment recovery.
6. All 17 interns who were contacted were advised that legal action may be taken if the payment was not made within the given time period.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that in line with department policy where the recorded figures are fewer than five the exact figure has been withheld.

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,



Defence Business Services Secretariat