



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence Statistics Health  
Ministry of Defence  
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Reference: FOI2019/10810

16 October 2019

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email received on 18 September 2019 requesting the following information:

“I would like to know how many UK military personnel have been injured or killed over the past ten years because of defective in inadequate equipment. Ideally I would like a year by year breakdown.”

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

I can advise that following a search of its records MOD holds the information requested. However, MOD will not be able to answer the request without exceeding the appropriate cost limit. This is because to retrieve and extract information in scope of your request would require a manual search of records exceeding 300 days of effort. Therefore this request falls under the scope of section 12 of the FOI 2000 Act where Section 12 makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under section 16, Advice and Assistance it may be helpful to note the following information;

- The Ministry of Defence produce an annual report on Health and Safety incidents in the UK Armed Forces which includes information on those deaths in the past five years that are “safety related” and injuries due to “equipment related” events. This may include events due to defective or inadequate equipment. The report can be found at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/defence-health-and-safety-statistics-index>

The latest report for 2018/19 is due for release on Thursday 14 November 2019 at 0930

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](mailto: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

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