



Ministry
of Defence

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3 June 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 28 April 2020, requesting the following information:

"I am writing from Full Fact, the UK-based independent fact checking charity.

I am looking into an article published yesterday in the print version of the Daily Star (page 2). The article is about non-freezing cold injury and heat illness payouts under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme. This article states that "Defence chiefs paid out £10Million to AfroCaribbean troops they failed to properly protect from the British weather".

I believe the figures in the article (£9,102,000 and £1,279,100) are from this MoD [FOI response](#). However, as far as I can see, there is no mention of ethnicity in this FOI.

Is this information published with a breakdown of the ethnicity of claimants?

I have attached the Daily Star article for your reference."

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

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

We have looked into the source of the figures quoted in the Daily Star article that you kindly attached to your email. As you mentioned in your email, the amounts quoted have been taken from one of our FOI responses which is published at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foi-responses-released-by-mod-week-commencing-6-april-2020-part-2>. However, the information provided in the FOI was not broken down by ethnicity, and therefore the amounts quoted cover personnel of all ethnicities.

Information on the ethnicity of claimants awarded for NFI or heat illness under the AFCS is not routinely published. However, information regarding the amounts paid out for NFI by ethnicity has been published in a previous FOI response: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/812215/FOI_2019_05921_redacted_response.pdf.

Under Section 16 (advice and assistance) you may wish to note the following:

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme

The Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death attributable to Service that occurred on or after that date. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the War

Pensions Scheme (WPS) and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pensions Scheme.

AFCS data is sourced from the Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) which is administrated and managed by DBS Veterans UK.

Data were extracted from the CAPS as at 31 March 2019 to inform the latest published National Statistics, as published on the Gov.uk website on 27 June 2019:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-index>

Tax-free lump sum awards are paid to all Service personnel and veterans as compensation for pain and suffering for an injury or illness that is predominantly caused or made worse by Service. Lump sum awards can be made whilst the claimant is still in Service. Where a lump sum award has been made at tariff levels 1-11 (reflecting a more serious injury/illness), the claimant will also be awarded a tax-free index-linked income stream known as a Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP). A GIP will be paid from Service termination for life to recognise long-term loss of earnings.

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

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