

Ref: FOI2020/03090

30 March 2020

Dear Mr

Thank you for your email of 3 March 2020 requesting the following information:

1. *“In the last three calendar years (2017-2019 inclusive) how many people left the employment of your Department with a financial compensation payment associated with the loss of their post as compensation for harassment, bullying or discrimination.*
2. *Please provide me with a grid showing how many of these people were paid (i) £10,000 to £19,999, (ii) £20,000 to £29,999, (iii) £30,000 to £39,999, (iv) £40,000 to £49,999, (v) £50,000 to £74,999, (vi) £75,000 to £99,999 and (vii) £100,000 or more.*
3. *In relation to the numbers receiving such a payment in each financial bracket referred to in Question 2 please state how many of them signed a non-disclosure agreement with your Department.”*

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

The Ministry of Defence requires further information in order to determine whether it holds any information within the scope of your request. Please could you confirm if you are only referring to Civilian personnel or you would also like information on Military personnel.

As I am sure you will appreciate, the Government’s contingency planning for the COVID-19 crisis is currently affecting the Department’s ability to respond to correspondence and requests as quickly as we would like and as such there may be delays in providing responses and processing requests. I would, therefore, ask for your patience and understanding during this difficult time.

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*