

Ministry of Defence Defence Business Services Secretariat MOD Abbey Wood North Oak West Level 1 Fox Den Road Bristol BS34 8QW

November 2019

Mr

Dear

Thank you for your email of 14 October 2019 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

"MOD - Transparency Data: spending over £25,000, January to December 2019. Would you please provide me with the amended publications for the month's March 2019 to August 2019 where all transactions are listed in Pound sterling? Also, would future publications please be made in line with the guidance."

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 MOD and I can confirm all the information in scope of your request is held. However, the information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of an absolute exemption under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible by other means. As Section 21 is an absolute exemption, there is no requirement to consider the public interest in making the decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) the MOD - Transparency Data: spending over $\pounds 25,000$, January to December 2019 details can be found at the link below where you can see the currency codes have now been amended to show GBP.

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/mod-finance-transparency-dataset

Also, in response to the second part of your question, I can confirm that all future transparency files will be uploaded in GBP meaning all future publications will be made in line with the guidance.

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 <u>CIO-</u>

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)