



Ministry
of Defence



[REDACTED] LLB(Hons)
DE&S Secretariat (Land Equipment)

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Defence Equipment & Support
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MOD Abbey Wood
Bristol BS34 8JH



Via:
[REDACTED]

5 August 2020 Our Ref: FOI2020/08513

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 22 July 2020 requesting the following information:

Could you please answer the following questions

- 1- Did SOLO International make/supply the first initial production run of the Osprey Mk4 body armour vests 2009/2010?*
- 2 - Is Osprey Mk 4 the correct name for these Solo supplied vests or should they be more correctly referred to as Osprey Assault vests?*
- 3 - Were there 3 variants/colours of the Solo vests supplied Tan, DDPM and MTP?*
- 4 - How many vests of each different variant/colour were purchased from Solo International ? Or total number purchased/supplied.*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held. However, some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at section 21 (Information Reasonably Accessible to the Requestor by Other Means) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

The answers to Questions 1 and 3 can be found in a previous FOI response, reference FOI206/07751 and can be found on the gov.uk FOI publication site.

In response to Question 2 Osprey Mk 4 is not known by any other name.

In response to Question 4, I refer you to the previous responses sent to you under references FOI2019/13420 and FOI2019/13534.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) for ease of reference I have included the link to FOI2016/07751:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/55307/7/20160823-FOI2016_07751_Osprey_contracts_publication-O.pdf

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,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

DES SEC Pol Sec Land Equipment