

Ref: FOI2020/08998

26 August 2020

Mr Dear Mr

Thank you for your email of 6 August 2020 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information.

"I am looking for some assistance with your organisation's Spend/Transparency data, available on the following weblink:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-spending-over-25000-january-to-december-2019>

There appears to be no file available for the month of May 2020. Could you advise when the file will be made available to view online? Would it be possible for you to email me a copy of the May 2020 file please & Thank you."

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 Guidance) you may be interested to know that the data requested above for the month of May 2020 is available at the below link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mod-spending-over-25000-january-to-december-2020>

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