



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Statistics Health
Ministry of Defence
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Dear [REDACTED]

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

“As of March 31 2020, £949m has been paid out in compensation under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS), of which £645m was in lump payments, £216m was guaranteed income payments and £87m was paid in survivors' guaranteed income payments.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-financial-year-201920>

Please provide the total amount paid out as of March 31 2020 for mental disorders under the AFCS, and also provide the figure for total payments for post traumatic stress disorder.

I would be grateful for a breakdown under both categories of the amount of lump sum payments; the amount of guaranteed income payments; and the amount of survivors guaranteed income payments.

Please also provide the total amounts paid out as of March 31 2020 for injury, wounds and scarring; physical disorders, including infectious diseases; amputations; neurological disorders; senses; fractures and dislocations; musculoskeletal disorders; temporary awards; and the cases where a condition is not available.

I would be grateful for a breakdown under these categories of the amount of lump sum payments; the amount of guaranteed income payments and the amount of survivors' guaranteed income payments.”

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 Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. However, I must advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate cost limit. This is because breaking down the amounts awarded in Lump Sums and Guaranteed Income Payments (GIPs) for each of the injury/illness categories specified would require a manual examination of the electronic claim files which would require over 18 working days.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the following information could be provided:

The financial compensation paid under the AFCS following illness claims for all mental disorders and PTSD between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2020, broken down by financial year.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing Analysis-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk.

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/>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics Health