



Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2020/01566

Ministry of Defence
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28 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 29 January requesting the following information:

"We would be grateful if the following information could be provided to us:

- 1. The number of civil claims submitted against the Ministry of Defence on the grounds of skin cancer;*
- 2. The number of successful civil claims submitted against the Ministry of Defence on the grounds of skin cancer."*

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. Skin cancer claims have been identified using the following search terms: 'actinic keratosis', 'basal cell', 'squamous cell carcinoma', 'malignant melanoma' and 'skin cancer'. Since 1 May 2007, 9 civil claims on the grounds of skin cancer have been submitted against the MoD by either current and former service personnel or civilian employees. Fewer than 5 of these claims were settled in favour of the claimant.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note the following: Numbers fewer than five have been suppressed in order to reduce the possible inadvertent disclosure of individual identities.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

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,
Common Law Claims and Policy