



Ministry
of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Email: spodjep-claimsgeneral@mod.gov.uk

Ref: FOI2020/13476

[Redacted]

11 January 2021

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your request of 8 December asking for the following information:

- “1. For the 2019/2020 financial year can you please state (i) how much was paid out as compensation to people who complained about low flying aircraft and ii) how many separate pay-outs this represented?
2. In addition, please provide me with summary details of all the claims that were paid out in the 2019/20 financial year. This list should include, (i) What was the amount of compensation, (ii) What were the aircraft responsible and where did the incident take place, and (iii) The nature of the damage?”

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. I am writing to confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

In terms of providing information relating to individual details, Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

A total of 38 compensation payments to individual claimants were paid by the MOD in FY2019/20 amounting to £246,421.31. Expenditure on these claims includes claims submitted in previous years and payments on claims that are still ongoing. This may include claims that arise from visiting NATO countries which are conducted under the terms of NATO SOFA but does not include any Low Flying claims dealt with by MODs overseas Area Claims Offices.

Nature of the damages and number of payments made:

Nature of damages	Number of payments
Property damage	19
Injury to or loss of livestock	10
Personal injury	9

Location relating to payments made:

Location	England	Wales	Scotland
Number of Payments	35	3	0

Aircraft type operating at low level in relation to payments made:

England	Wales
Tornado	Chinook
Typhoon	Merlin
Chinook	Hercules C-130
Merlin	
Apache	
Wildcat	
Gazelle	
Puma	
Osprey	

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 take your complaint 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. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Directorate of Judicial Engagement Policy
Common Law and Claims Policy