

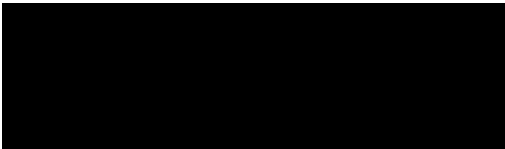


Ministry
of Defence

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Our Reference:
FOI2021/04419
Date:
24 May 2021

Dear 

I am writing about your recent request (Reference: FOI2021/03814) seeking the following information:

Please provide the following records under the freedom of Information:

1. The amount spent on purchasing flags in each of the years: 2021 (up to the date of this request), 2020, 2019 and 2018

2. For the same time periods, please provide a separate breakdown for spending on the following flags:

- The Union Flag (
- St George's flag
- The flag of the European Union

You subsequently clarified your request (FOI2021/04419), as follows:

I agree to my request being narrowed to cover Union Flags purchased under the central MOD contract for which records are available. Please also provide this in line with the financial years mentioned, plus 1 January to 8 April 2021 In line with your suggestion, please also provide the overall total cost of flags procured against the central contract over the complete time periods.

I have handled your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. The information is provided in the following table:

Flags	Cost (£) FY2018/19 (excl VAT)	Cost (£) FY2019/20 (excl VAT)	Cost (£) FY2020/21 (excl VAT)	Total cost (£) (excl VAT)
Union flags	25,351.97	38,325.47	54,564.50	118,241.94
Other flags	110,297.55	253,549.30	176,532.42	540,379.27

As previously explained in my letter of 23 April 2021 (Reference: FOI2021/03814), the data provided in the table reflects flags purchased under the central MOD contract. It does not provide details for flags that might have been purchased by individual MOD units who are not obliged to use the contract and are free to purchase flags under their own local arrangements.

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/>.

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