



Ref: FOI2021/10702

Defence Business Services
Head DBS Secretariat Oak
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15 October 2021

Dear

Thank you for your email of 21 September 2021 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

"I would like to make a further Fol Request regarding the Medical Advisors and Managers. I know the number of those listed in the original request for example 22 x MA's can I request a breakdown of their relevant Medical Qualifications or Specialism? I understand all will be qualified Doctors what i would like to know is their specialist field i.e GP Grade, Consultant (and in what area)? If this could be broken down for example as 12x GP, 8 x Consultant (and field) that would be excellent?"

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 that all of the information in scope of your request is held.

However, I must advise you that Section 40(2) has been applied to the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. 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.

I am therefore unable to release the names, qualifications and GMC numbers of the Veterans UK Medical Advisers, as they have either not consented to, or are unable to consent to, the release of their personal information, and it remains unreasonable to do so without their consent.

You may be interested to know however, that under Section 16 (Advice and Guidance) some of the information you requested above is available at the below link:

<https://www.gmc-uk.org/registration-and-licensing/the-medical-register>

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