



**Defence Business Services**  
DBS Secretariat  
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Ref: FOI2022/01391

[DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk)

11 February 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 28 January 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), about the GMC number of a Veterans UK Medical Adviser (MA).

You requested the following information:

*“AJZ, GMC number for a referral to the GMC”*

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 all the information in scope of your request is held.

The GMC number you have requested is 2633231.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Assistance) I should explain that although consent has been given in this case, and the requested information provided, the MOD is not required to release the names or qualifications of its employees, where doing so would contravene other legislation such as the Data Protection Act.

The General Medical Council (GMC) has confirmed that where an individual makes a direct approach to a Doctor for their qualifications, the Doctor must provide the requested information, for example where a patient makes a verbal request to their General Practitioner (GP). However, as DBS customers are unable to approach the Veterans UK Medical Advisers (MA's) directly, the release of a MA's personal information is dependent upon other rules and regulations such as the UK Data Protection Act 2018 (UK DPA 18). GDPR Article 23(1) and the UK DPA 2018, Schedule 2, Part 3, covers the Protection of Rights of Others, specifically in relation to Health, Social and Education workers. In accordance with paragraph 17(1)(a) it is to be considered reasonable for a controller to disclose information to a data subject without the consent of the other individual where:

(a) the health data test is met. 17(2) explains, the health data test is met if – (a) the information in question is contained in a health record, and

(b) the other individual is a health professional who has complied or contributed to the health record or who, in his or her capacity as a health professional, has been involved in the diagnosis, care or treatment of the data subject.

The War Pension or Armed Forces Compensation Scheme file does not constitute a health record, and MAs are not involved in the diagnosis, care, or treatment of claimants. The MA's role is to provide advice and guidance based upon pre-existing medical evidence which is used to determine the level of disablement in accordance with the relevant scheme rules. I can confirm that Veterans UK is unable to release the titles, GMC numbers or full names of MAs, if consent has not been given.

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,



DBS Secretariat Team