



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
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Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2022/10656

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

3 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your emails of 8 February 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting:

FOI2022/01656

"I would like to know:

- 1. The total amount of bonus payments made to Veterans UK Medical Advisors over the last 2 financial years?*
- 2. A breakdown of how much each individual Medical Advisor received? (Names redacted for GDPR)*
- 3. Which MOD form is used to approve bonus payments for Veterans UK Medical Advisors?*
- 4. How many 'Thank you' bonus payments have been paid to Veterans UK Medical Advisors over the last 2 financial years? (broken down by individual).*
- 5. How much Veterans UK Medical Advisors are paid? (Most recent pay review)".*

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 some information in scope of your request is held. The recorded data regarding requests one and two can be found below:

2019-2020	In Year Reward	Date Paid
VA MEDICAL ADVISOR	£500.00	Mar-20
VA MEDICAL ADVISOR	£350.00	Dec-19
VA MEDICAL ADVISOR	£350.00	Dec-19

2020-2021	In Year Reward	Date Paid
VA MEDICAL ADVISOR	£500.00	Mar-21
VA MEDICAL ADVISOR	£250.00	Apr-20

To answer your other requests regarding 'bonus payments'

In Year Reward Payments are discussed at a monthly reward panel. Approval is provided online and is agreed at the Top Level Budget (TLB) budgetary level, each TLB will have a different approach to this. However, there is an online nomination form and a copy can be found enclosed along with a copy of the policy statement relating to In Year Rewards.

There were no "Thank You" payments made to Veterans UK Medical Advisors over the last two financial years

Finally, in answer to your last request regarding Veterans UK Medical Advisors salary, the information you have requested falls entirely within the scope of an absolute exemption under Section 21 of the FOIA as it is reasonably accessible by other means. As Section 21 is an absolute exemption, there is no requirement to consider the public interest in making the decision to withhold the information.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Guidance) you may be interested to know that the information requested was published as part of transparency data on MOD roles and salaries as of 31 March 2021 and can be found at the below link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1006708/HOCS_Mar_21_junior_data.csv/preview

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

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Defence Business Services Secretariat