



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
Room 6303
Tomlinson House
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Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2022/01653

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

2 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 7 February 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting:

- “1. Who received bonus payments in Veterans UK in the last financial year? (Only the position/job role is necessary - No names as per GDPR).*
- 2. How much each person received?*
- 3. What the criteria was for receiving bonus payments?*
- 4. Are bonus payments made for monetary savings?”*

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. However, I must advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate cost limit.

Section 12 of the FOIA makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate cost limits, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving, and extracting the information.

Data relating to the reason for an In Year Reward (IYR) being made is not held on the database. This would involve the manual scrutiny of 488 IYR payments over the past two financial years. Working to an estimated average of 10 minutes per case, would amount to approximately 81 hours, at a cost to the Department of £2,025.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance), you may wish to be aware that the data relating to the amounts paid in IYRs to Veterans UK staff in the last financial year may be available. The policy statement relating to IYR is also available. If you wish to refine your request, please let this office know and I will be happy to consider it again.

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

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat