



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

Ref: FOI2022/03834

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

12 April 2022

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 March 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

“Please confirm if the author, [REDACTED] has ever acted in the DIO/MoD capacity he claims. As a former SC cleared Defence contractor myself, I assume he would have been through a clearance check”.

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 under section 40(5) of the FOIA the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any information in scope of your request. Your request asks for information which may include a third party's personal data. Were any information held it would be exempt from disclosure as it may constitute the personal data of third parties and it would be unfair and unlawful to disclose this type of information without consent as it would breach the fair processing principle of the Data Protection Act (DPA).

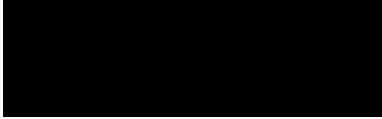
The fact that Section 40(5) of the FOIA has been cited should not be taken as an indication that the information you have requested is or is not held by the Department. Section 40(5) is an absolute exemption. The terms of this exemption mean that we do not have to consider whether or not it would be in the public interest for us to reveal whether or not the information is held.

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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