



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
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Ref: FOI2022/05054

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

18 May 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 20 April 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), seeking the policy for the War Pension Unemployability Supplement (UNSUPP). You asked for the following information:

“Under the freedom information and access to information I request a copy of the Unemployability Supplements Policy Time and dated to my awards of said and any lawful changes made.”

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 Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that all the information in scope of your request is held. However, 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 Assistance) of the FOIA, you may find it helpful to consult the links below for further information:

The Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc. (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006/606 can be located at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/606/contents> with the specific reference to UNSUPP at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/606/article/12>

The previous (1983) version can be found at:
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1983/883/contents/made>

In addition, you may also find the following links of interest:

JSP765 provides some information on UNSUPP:
www.gov.uk/government/publications/joint-service-publication-jsp-765-the-armed-forces-compensation-scheme

Guidance about claiming UNSUPP can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/war-pension-scheme-unemployability-supplement-unsupp>

Finally, at Annex A, I have provided an extract from the Eligibility and Entitlement Guide which relates to UNSUPP. This guide is used by Veterans UK Caseworkers when assessing entitlement to UNSUPP. Please note as this guide was compiled in 2008/2009, it is currently in the process of being updated, therefore may not contain the most up to date guidance.

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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