



**Defence Business Services**

Secretariat  
Room 6303  
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Norcross  
Thornton-Cleveleys  
Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2022/07133

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

7 July 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 13 June 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

*“What would it cost Veterans UK to email all of their employees and ask them each if they are a veteran of the British armed forces? If maybe 30 members of staff reply in the affirmative, I don't believe the cost of such a process would exceed £600. I ask that you look into conducting such research”.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I apologise for the time it has taken to respond to your request, this was the result of more than one area holding recorded information.

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD and I can confirm that no information in scope of your request is held.

Although there would be no cost to the MOD to request this information from employees, under UK Data Protection Legislation the MOD must provide valid grounds for collecting and using personal data (lawful basis). In order for the processing to be lawful it must be necessary for MOD to collect and use this information for a specific purpose. As there is no specified purpose or lawful basis for the MOD to collate this information we are unable to take this action.

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](mailto: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