



Ministry
of Defence

Army Policy and Secretariat
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16 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 29 August 2022 in which you requested the following information:

In particular, I would like some additional information concerning the award of battle honours to British Army regiments and units that participated in Operation Herrick from April 2006 to December 2014 (i.e. Op Herrick 4 to 20 roulements) and Operation Telic from 1 July 2003 to 30 April 2009. (i.e. Op Telic 2 to 12 roulements)

Could you provide the dates when the British Army's honours and awards committee last meet to consider awarding battle honours for the regiments and units that participated in the above mentioned operational tours.

Could you provide me with a copy of the minutes of the most recent meetings when the British Army honours and awards committee considered the above matters. I would be content just to see the section of those minutes covering the Op Telic and Herrick battle honours, rather than the full document if other non-related matters are discussed.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and the information that can be released is below.

Some of the information requested is exempt from release as it falls within scope of Section 37 (1b) of the FOIA (the conferring by the Crown of any honour or dignity). As this is a qualified exemption, a Public Interest Test (PIT) has been conducted. Though members of the public may find details on how awards within the Armed Forces are issued interesting, as this process involves sensitive and confidential details, these decisions may be subject to more pressure and criticism should they be released. Therefore, the Department will not provide the requested information.

The date of the Army's Honours and Awards Committee meeting to consider awarding battle honours for Operation TELIC was 6 February 2015. There was no meeting in relation to Operation HERRICK.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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.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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