

Ref: FOI2022/09696

Defence Business Services

Secretariat Room 6303 Tomlinson House Norcross Thornton-Cleveleys FY5 3WP

Email: <u>DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk</u>

13 September 2022



Thank you for your email of 18 August 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

"In the five years to the 31st March 2022:

- 1. How many Table 3 AFCS awards were made for Levels 13, 12 and 10?
- 2. How many Table 3 AFCS awards were made for Levels 8, 6 and 4?"

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 all the information in scope of your request is held. However, in order to protect personal information governed by Data Protection Legislation, Section 40(2) of the FOIA has been applied to some of the information by supplementing numbers less than five with a tilde (\sim). Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

Table 1 below shows the number of claims awarded under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) under the Mental Disorders tariff of injury table (Table 3), by tariff level, between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2022.

Table 1: AFCS claims awarded at tariff levels 13, 12 & 10 and 8, 6 & 4, under the Mental Disorders tariff of injury table, by financial year¹, numbers.

	Number of claims awarded tariff levels 13, 12 and 10 ²	Number of claims awarded tariff levels 8, 6 and 4 ²
All Years ¹	2,168	23
2017/18	563	12
2018/19	502	6
2019/20	415	~
2020/21	378	~
2021/22	310	0

Sources: Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) and Veterans UK Finance Team

- 1. Presented by the financial year in which the initial claim was cleared.
- 2. Presented by latest awarded tariff.

Under Section 16 (Advice and Guidance) you may wish to be aware that the data was extracted from the Compensation and Pension System (CAPS) as at 31 March 2022 to inform the latest published National Statistics, as published on the Gov.uk website on 30 June 2022:

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-statistics-index

This response includes injury/illness claims with a cleared date on or after 1 April 2017. injury/illness claims cleared prior to this date have not been included, regardless of any subsequent activity cleared within the requested timeframe.

The information supplied in this response concerns awards made under Table 3 – Mental Disorders. Awards can be made at tariff levels 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13 & 14 under this table, however due to the specificity of the request, awards made at tariff level 14 have been excluded from analysis.

The legislation surrounding the payment of compensation under each tariff of injury table also determines the tariff level at which each injury/illness should be paid compensation. There are 15 tariff levels which each attract a lump sum award. Tariff levels 1-11 also attract an ongoing Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP), a tax-free index-linked income stream known as the Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) is paid from service termination for life to recognise loss of future earnings due to the injury or illness.

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,

Defence Business Services (Secretariat)