



Defence Business Services
Secretariat
Room 6303
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Ref: FOI2022/09741

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

12 September 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 19 August 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), seeking information about the number of MOD Civilian staff are members of Trade Unions.

You requested the following information:

"I would like to know how many of the civil servants currently employed by MoD are members of one of the unions involved in the collective bargaining discussion for the current civilian pay award offer?"

I would like to see membership numbers shown for each of the unions:

*Prospect
FDA
GMB
Unite
PCS"*

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 no information in scope of your request is held.

This is because Trade Union (TU) subscriptions are no longer deducted through the MOD payroll. When subscriptions were taken from pay reasonably accurate membership figures could be estimated based on those deductions, although there was no visibility of individuals who had chosen to pay membership through direct debits or other means. However, once MOD stopped collecting TU subscriptions, there was no longer any means of identifying TU members.

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

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat