

Ref: FOI2022/10589

5 October 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your e-mail of 9 September 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) requesting the following information:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), could you please provide the information as requested and set out below relating to Long Service & Good Conduct Medal (Army/Navy/RAF), issued with two clasps (35 years in total).

1. *The number of 2nd LS&GC(M) clasps (35 years) awarded to all service personnel, since the introduction of the award, or the earliest date of available data from electronic records (Joint Personnel Administration), broken down by service type, ie. Army, Navy and RAF.*
2. *The total number of currently serving recipients of the LS&GC(ARMY) only, with 2nd clasp (35 years total).*
3. *Breakdown of serial 2, held by either Other Ranks or Commissioned Officer.”*

I am treating your request as a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held and provided on the tables below:

Number of 2nd LS&GCM clasps awarded to all Service personnel from earliest date available

Long Service & Efficiency Award	Number Awarded
LS&GC Medal Clasp 2 (Army)	1202
LS&GC Medal Clasp 2 (Royal Air Force)	1535
LS&GC Medal Clasp 2 (Royal Navy & Royal Marines)	1344
Grand Total	4081

LS&GCM 2nd clasps awarded to serving Army personnel by Officers and Other Ranks

Long Service & Efficiency Award	Officers	Other Ranks	Grand Total
LS&GC Medal Clasp 2 (Army)	496	106	602

The above statistics are all derived from data on Joint Personnel Administration (JPA) or the MOD Medal Office Database.

The earliest qualifying date from the data set available was 16 September 1996.

Some Service personnel who are, or were, still active following the migration from legacy Armed Forces HR systems in 2006/7 may have earned a 2nd Clasp to the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal, but it may not be recorded on their JPA record. This information is retained within the Data Preservation Repository (DPRR), but it is not possible to extract this information within the FOIA cost limits, and it has therefore been excluded under Section 12 of the FOIA.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving, and extracting it.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance) I can confirm it is the responsibility of those who earned medallic recognition prior to the introduction of JPA to request their Unit Human Resources Administration to update their JPA Honours & Awards Extra Information table so that it fully reflects medals earned in a central area, or if the Administrators do not have the appropriate responsibilities, to submit a request to the MOD Medal Office to update accordingly.

The statistics provided for the third question show a larger number of awards to Officers. Officers may generally complete more years in the Armed forces based on their commission periods, it should be noted that in 2016, the Long Service & Good Conduct medallic recognition regulations were amended to widen the eligibility scope. The new qualification criteria was retrospective to any serving Officers still in service on, or after 29 July 2014, and Other Ranks on, or after 1 October 2016.

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



DBS (Secretariat)