



Ministry
of Defence

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

Email: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk

Ref: FOI2023/02705

[REDACTED]

22 March 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 1 March 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) requesting the following information:

"The number of War Pensions Claims & War Pensions appeals & the number of Armed Forces Compensation Claims & appeals currently being managed by [REDACTED] at Veterans UK, Norcross, Thornton-Cleveleys, Lancashire FY5 3WP in the years 2021, 2022 & 2023?"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I must advise you that Section 40(2) has been applied to your question in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018 in that it would contravene the first Data Protection Principle and would be unfair and unlawful to the individual concerned. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there are no requirements to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

I am, therefore, unable to release the information requested as it is the personal data of the individual caseworker (as it relates to their own performance) and they have either not consented to, or are unable to consent to, the release of their personal information, and it remains unreasonable to do so without their consent.

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)