



**Defence Business Services**

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Ref: FOI2023/03773

[DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk)

April 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

*“How many people who have served in the British armed forces - and who were later diagnosed with PTSD having been honourably discharged on medical grounds - have, as of the day of this request, not received the full amount of money from the MoD they are entitled to to help fund their medical needs?”*

*Please break this question down into the tours (i.e. Afghanistan, Iraq) the person served in, their length of service, how much money they are, as of the day of this request, are owed by the MoD, how much money has been paid to them (in £), how much money, as of the day of this request, is yet to be paid to them, and why the full amount of money has not been paid to them.*

*I am asking this question after hearing about the case of Vilikesa Tubuitamana, a father of three who served in Afghanistan and Iraq with the British armed forces, who was reportedly left “penniless” after the MOD was said to have used his PTSD support money to settle an administrative error.”*

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 no information in scope of your request is held.

Under Section 16 of the FOI (Help and Assistance) I should also explain that under the terms of Data Protection Legislation, I can neither confirm, nor deny that the department holds any data related to the named individual in your request.

The department has interpreted your interest to be in those who were diagnosed with PTSD after being medically discharged from service, who have not received their full entitlement to help fund their medical needs. The MOD does not hold information on the injuries and illnesses a service leaver may have been diagnosed with after discharging from service.

However, I can confirm that there are a number of schemes available to ex-service personnel who have suffered injury or ill health which can be attributed to their service in the Armed Forces.

### **War Pension Scheme (WPS)**

The WPS provides no-fault compensation for all ex-service personnel where illness, injury or death is caused by Service from the start of the First World War in 1914 up until 5 April 2005. The WPS is managed by the MOD with all compensation claims administered by Defence Business Services (DBS) Veterans UK.

Defence Statistics Health publish statistics on claims and awards made under the WPS. The latest publication presents statistics as at 31 March 2022 which was published on the Gov.uk website on 30 June 2022: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/war-pension-recipients-index>.

### **Armed Forces Compensation Scheme**

The Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) came into force on 6 April 2005 to pay compensation for injury, illness or death attributable to service that occurred on or after that date. It replaced the previous compensation arrangements provided by the WPS and the attributable elements of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Pensions Scheme.

Successful claimants will be awarded under a tariff level. The AFCS has 15 tariff levels from 1 (most severe) to 15 (least severe). Each tariff level has a corresponding level of lump sum payment. A Guaranteed Income Payment (GIP) is payable when an award has been made and the injury or illness is awarded at tariff levels 1 to 11.

The latest published National Statistics can be found at the following link:

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

### **Armed Forces Pension Scheme (AFPS)**

There are four Pension Schemes to which individuals may have rights. The appropriate scheme is dependent on when an individual served and their length of service. Some ex-service personnel may be member's of more than one scheme.

- (1) AFPS 75 (Regulars only – entry closed on 5 Apr 05).
- (2) AFPS 05 (Regulars only – entry closed on 31 Mar 15).
- (3) RFPS 05 (Full Time Reservists only – entry closed on 31 Mar 15).
- (4) AFPS 15 (All Regulars and All Reservists).

Further information about the benefits payable under each scheme can be found at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pensions-and-compensation-for-veterans#scheme-2>

Armed Forces Pension Scheme annual accounts from 2021 to 2022 can be found at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/armed-forces-pension-scheme-annual-accounts-2021-to-2022>

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](mailto: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