

Ref: FOI2023/12605

## **Defence Business Services**

Secretariat
Room 6229
Tomlinson House
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DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

16 November 2023

Dear \_\_\_\_

Thank you for your email of 22 September 2023, and subsequent clarification email of 18 October to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

"Details of all outstanding invoices from third parties billed to the Ministry of Defence that were received over five years ago - backwards from 1 January 2019.

To clarify: please may I have the details of all outstanding unpaid invoices, billed to the Ministry of Defence with a submission date prior to 1 January 2019"

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 all information in scope of your request is held and is shown below:

Invoice Number: 18006911987 Invoice Date: 29 November 2016

Amount: \$9,223.91

Processed by Group 33 December 2016 - No Pay Group recorded against invoice. Nothing has been found on the Emergency Manual Payment or Returns registers, so we can find no evidence that this invoice has been paid. Due to the age of the invoice no further paperwork is still retained for further review.

Invoice No: 525703A Invoice Date: 6 July 2016 Amount: £1.485.18

Historical Spend (Legacy) bill – ORACLE indicates this was processed by the Invoice Processing group as late as March 2018 and the payment method is set to Wire. Nothing has been found on the Emergency Manual Payments (EMP) or Returns registers, however, as the payment method is set to Wire this would suggest an EMP was made, but we cannot categorically state that the payment has been made.

Under Section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance) I can advise that the MOD cannot guarantee that the invoiced amounts detailed above have not been paid to the supplier(s). Also, multiple invoices for the same services with a different reference number can sometimes be received for the same amounts, or invoices from the same supplier can subsequently be aggregated into one invoice. The invoices listed above are the only open invoices shown on the MOD financial system on 6 November 2023.

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)