



Ministry
of Defence

Ref: FOI2023/11951

Defence Business Services
Secretariat
Room 6229
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

24 January 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 4 October 2023 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), seeking updated information about temporary working overseas concessions. Please accept my apologies for the length of time that it has taken to gather this information.

You requested the following information:

"Excluding DE&S/SDA and other "trading entities / Arms length bodies" (such as DSTL, UKHO etc) please can you advise how many MOD civil service staff are working remotely overseas as approved by the MOD form "temporary working overseas concessions - request".

Like the previous FOI, please also provide:

Country location

Grade

Duration

Area within MOD (for example, Air Command, Army Command etc)".

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.

Employees are not normally allowed to work remotely overseas, unless they have been exceptionally approved to internationally remote work in their UK based role on the basis of an approved temporary concession, of which there are two types:

- 1) The requesting employee is an accompanying spouse/civil partner/unmarried cohabiting partner of a MOD employee or member of the Armed Forces (AF) who has been formally posted overseas, and they wish to continue working overseas in their existing UK based role. Allowing this for partners of AF personnel supports our commitment to the AF Covenant. This arrangement applies for the duration of the employee's partner's overseas tenure.

Or

- 2) The request is to temporarily work overseas for exceptional personal/domestic reasons (for a maximum of 2 months), which are:
- Attending a close family member's funeral
 - Receiving urgent and serious medical attention
 - Accompanying a family member requiring urgent and serious medical attention
 - Complying with urgent legal responsibilities overseas
 - Supporting a relative overseas who needs other urgent and immediate help
 - There are no family members geographically nearer to the relative.

The table below provides figures on both Temporary Concessions as of 30 November 2023.

TLB	COUNTRY	GRADE	START	DURATION	ACCOMPANYING SPOUSE/PARTNER	TOTAL
AIR	CYPRUS	AO	06/09/22	06/09/26	Y	1
AIR	BELGIUM	HEO	08/08/22	08/08/25	Y	1
ARMY	KENYA	EO	09/09/23	04/24	Y	1
ARMY	POLAND	EO	20/03/23	13/01/25	Y	1
ARMY	CYPRUS	EO	01/08/22	31/01/25	Y	1
ARMY	BRUNEI	HEO	01/05/23	31/08/24	Y	1
DIO	CYPRUS	SEO	01/09/22	3 Years	Y	1
DIO	CYPRUS	G7	18/09/23	26 Months	Y	1
DIO	BELGIUM	EO	07/08/23	3 Years	Y	1
HO	GERMANY	G7	May 21	21/09/25	Y	1
HO	GERMANY	SEO	Sept 23	1 Year	Y	1
HO	GERMANY	SEO	Dec 22	4 Years	Y	1
HO	SERBIA	G6	Oct 23	2 Years	Y	1
HO	KENYA	G6	Jan 21	Not Known	Y	1
HO	IRELAND	HEO	June 22	Not Known	Y	1
NAVY	CYPRUS	G6	July 23	July 25	Y	1
NAVY	NORWAY	SEO	Nov 23	Dec 25	Y	1
STRATEGIC COMMAND	CYPRUS	EO	30/09/21	Not Known	Y	1
STRATEGIC COMMAND	USA	G6	28/02/23	3 Years	Y	1
STRATEGIC COMMAND	BELGIUM	G7	15/08/22	2-3 Years	Y	1
STRATEGIC COMMAND	GERMANY	HEO	05/09/22	2-3 Years	Y	1
STRATEGIC COMMAND	SAUDI	SEO	Feb 23	2-3 Years	Y	1
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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)