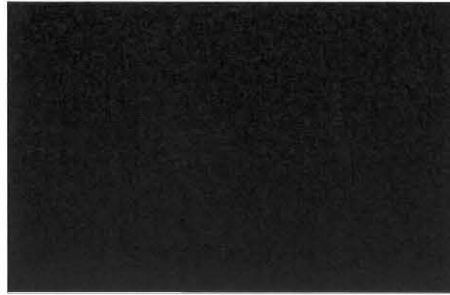




Ministry
of Defence



Ref: FOI2021/02346

E-mail: NAVYACNS-SECFOIGroup@mod.gov.uk



19 March 2021

Dear 

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 March 2021 in which you requested the following information:

"I suffer from long sightedness with a refraction number of +6.75 for both eyes. with the help of the latest scientific technology I am capable of correcting my vision up to 20/20.

Annex A of JSP 950 states that applicants may have corrective refractive surgery, but that the pre-operative refractive error must not be outside the limits for selections (+/- 6).

knowing that my refractive error is so close frustrates me and leaves me with one question.

-Why is there a requirement for a certain pre-operative range when eyes have been corrected and are shown to be stable?"

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

A search has been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. In response to your request, I can advise you that the refractive error limit is set reflecting the increasing risk of retinal detachment with increasing refractive correction requirement. The risk is not reduced by photorefractive surgery. Retinal detachment is a sight threatening condition requiring prompt specialist intervention unavailable in the deployed environment.

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.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

Navy Command Secretariat – FOI Section