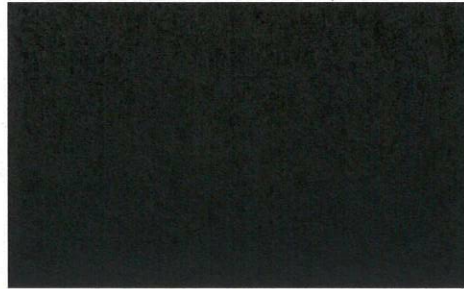




Ministry  
of Defence



Ref: FOI2020/03651

E-mail: [navysef-foimailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:navysef-foimailbox@mod.gov.uk)



15 April 2020

Dear [REDACTED],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 March 2020 in which you requested the following information:

'I am researching British Military Uniforms and had some questions regarding the use of certain Royal Navy Uniforms.

When was the RN PCS uniform authorized for wear following the trials period for the uniform?

When was the No3BW General Duty Rig White withdrawn from use?

When was the No3CW General Duty Rig White withdrawn from use?

When was the No4 Action Working Dress (AWD) withdrawn from use?

Also, in recent UK television programmes featuring HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH and HMS DUNCAN, various surcoats in different colours have been shown. What are the various colours of surcoats used by the Royal Navy, and what duties do they identify on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier, as well as on a surface warship?'

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 and can be found at Annex A to this letter.

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](mailto: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

### Royal Navy Uniform Queries

Ref	Question	Answer
1	When was the RN PCS uniform authorized for wear following the trials period for the uniform?	April 2015.
2	When was the No3BW General Duty Rig White withdrawn from use?	April 2015 (although still used during roll out of RNPCS).
3	When was the No3CW General Duty Rig White withdrawn from use?	April 2015.
4	When was the No4 Action Working Dress (AWD) withdrawn from use?	April 2015. It is still in use within the Maritime Reserve and also Sea Cadets but is gradually being phased out.
5	In recent UK television programmes featuring HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH and HMS DUNCAN, various surcoats in different colours have been shown. What are the various colours of surcoats used by the Royal Navy, and what duties do they identify on a surface warship?	(1) Red and White stripes Rating in charge of the Main Group. (2) Red Main Group with the exception of the Breathing Apparatus Controller. (3) Yellow – Breathing Apparatus Controllers. (4) Blue - Containment party. (5) White with Red Cross – First Aid Party

### Carrier Flight Deck Surcoat Colours

SURCOAT COLOUR	PERSONNEL
YELLOW	FLIGHT DECK OPERATOR/CAPTAIN of the FLIGHT DECK/AIRCRAFT DIRECTORS
BLUE	NAVAL AIRMEN F/DK & PHOTOGRAPHER
BROWN	AIR ENGINEERING(MECHANICAL) FULL SUPERVISORY RATINGS
GREEN	LEGACY AIR ENGINEER(ELECTRICAL) FULL SUPERVISORY RATINGS
GREEN WITH BLUE STRIPE	AVIONICS FULL SUPERVISORY RATINGS (INCLUDES LEGACY RADIO SUPERVISORS)
RED	CRASH & SALVAGE PARTY
RED WITH BLACK STRIPE	WEAPONS SUPPLY ALL RATINGS
RED WITH WHITE STRIPE (Stencilled ASP)	FLIGHT DECK ASSAULT GUIDES
WHITE WITH RED CROSS	MEDICAL ATTENDANT
WHITE (Stencilled with Squadron No)	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE MANAGERS and DUTY AIRCREW
WHITE WITH BLACK STRIPE	FLIGHT DECK ENGINEERS
GREY	AIR ENGINEER TECHNICIAN (all trades)

