



# Ministry of Defence

**Defence Business Services**  
Secretariat  
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Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2024/04716

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

15 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 16 March 2024 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), requesting the following information:

- 1) *"Name of department or organisation"*
- 2) *"Did your organisation pay the Civil Service £1,500 Cost of Living payment to staff ? (If No, you are not required to complete question 3)"*
- 3) *"Number of Non-Senior Civil Service graded staff (permanent or fixed-term employees, but not contractors or agency workers) who were:"*
  - a) *in post from 31 March 2023 and to 31 July 2023*
  - b) *on long-term unpaid sickness absence as at 31 March 2023 to 31 July 2023 and did receive the £1,500 Cost of Living payment*
  - c) *on long-term unpaid sickness absence as at 31 March 2023 to 31 July 2023 and did not receive the £1,500 cost of living payment"*

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 all of the information in scope of your request is held.

*Q1. "Name of department or organisation"*

This department is Defence Business Services (DBS) which is part of the wider MOD.

*Q2. "Did your organisation pay the Civil Service £1,500 Cost of Living payment to staff ? (If No, you are not required to complete question 3)"*

I can confirm that DBS paid the £1,500 Cost of Living Payment to all qualifying Civilian personnel.

*Q3. "Number of Non-Senior Civil Service graded staff (permanent or fixed-term employees, but not contractors or agency workers) who were:"*

Q3(a). *"in post from 31 March 2023 and to 31 July 2023"*

I can confirm there were 45,378 MOD Civilian Core Workforce staff in post on the MOD Wide Nominal Roll as at 31 July 2023.

Q3(b). *"on long-term unpaid sickness absence as at 31 March 2023 to 31 July 2023 and did receive the £1,500 Cost of Living payment"*

There were 142 MOD Civilian Core Workforce staff on long-term unpaid sickness absence between 31 March 2023 and 31 July 2023 who received the £1,500 Cost of Living payment.

Q3(c). *"on long-term unpaid sickness absence as at 31 March 2023 to 31 July 2023 and did not receive the £1,500 cost of living payment"*

Six MOD Civilian Core Workforce staff on long-term unpaid sickness absence between 31 March 2023 and 31 July 2023 did not receive the £1,500 Cost of Living payment.

Under section 16 of the FOIA (Advice and Assistance), you may wish to be aware that DBS is the corporate shared services centre of MOD, delivering corporate HR, payroll, Armed Forces Pensions and Compensation, Finance, and Information Services.

You may also wish to note that staff with a start date after 31 March 2023 would not have been eligible for the £1,500 cost of living payment.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact us in the first instance at the address above. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for 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 must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint 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. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,



Defence Business Services Secretariat