



Government Legal Department

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[REDACTED]

Ref No: FOI 25_186

10th September 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 27th August 2025 containing your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act", "FOIA")

Request

1. How many working hours have GLD staff spent in defending claims made against Ministry of Defence Claims in the last 10 years?
Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)
2. How many working hours have GLD staff spent defending claims made against the Ministry of Defence for Noise Induced Hearing Loss Claims in the last 10 years?
Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)
3. How many working hours have GLD staff spent defending claims made against the Ministry of Defence for Sexual Related Offences, whether for loss of employment, personal injury of other type of claim?
Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)
4.
 - a. How many working hours have GLD contracted and/or otherwise paid for, outside Counsel to review and/or defend claims made against the Ministry of Defence in the last 10 years?
 - b. What was the total financial cost of these contracted and or otherwise paid for hours?Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)
5.
 - a. How many working hours have GLD contracted and/or otherwise paid for, outside Counsel to review and/or defend claims made against the Ministry of Defence for Noise Induced Hearing Loss in the last 10 years?
 - b. What was the total financial cost of these contracted and or otherwise paid for hours?Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)
6.
 - a. How many working hours have GLD contracted and/or otherwise paid for, outside Counsel to review and/or defend claims made against the Ministry of Defence for Sexual Related Offences, whether for loss of employment, personal injury of other type of claim?
 - b. What was the total financial cost of these contracted and or otherwise paid for hours?Please break down the figures on an annual basis and where available per Service (Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force)

If GLD does not track these hours or costs please state this.

Response

GLD is refusing your request for information pursuant to the cost limit exemption contained within the FOI Act. Section 12(1) makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where it estimates the cost of compliance would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit for GLD is set at £600, which represents the cost of one person spending 24 hours, at a rate of £25 per hour, determining whether the Information is held, locating, extracting, and preparing the information for disclosure.

We cannot determine if we hold any/all of the information you have requested within the appropriate limit, as such and in accordance with s16 FOI Act and the duty to provide advice and assistance, please consider refining and narrowing your request and GLD will consider it again as a new request however, we would need to consider if it is in the public interest for us to dedicate the resources necessary to carry out a detailed search, or whether it represents an unreasonable burden on us as a public authority.

The GLD is not obliged to consider a substantially similar request from the same person unless a reasonable interval has lapsed between compliance with the previous request and the making of the current request.

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask GLD for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted to GLD within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original correspondence. Please use the contact details provided at the top of this letter in order to request an internal review relating to your original request.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ICO.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

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