



Ref: FOI2023-002

[REDACTED]

14th February 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 17<sup>th</sup> January 2023 requesting the following information:

*You mention at point 9 in the review that "there are references to blood tests being taken from 3 individuals in a report". This should have been within scope of my original request for information AWE holds on blood tests of service personnel. Please provide me with a copy of this report.*

*At point 10 you claim urine data was "excluded from our response as it did not identify the results of individual personnel's urine tests", yet in your October release (FOI2022-028) to me you stated "AWE also have the results from the measurement of radioactivity in urine of a small number of individuals". You said in November (FOI2022-035) "We can confirm at least 20 individuals had urine monitoring at Operation Hurricane, but AWE does not hold the results."*

*Whether they are results or not, please provide me with a copy of all information you hold about urine monitoring of service personnel.*

*Finally on point 12 can you define the acronym 'ADP' and tell me where AWE would reasonably expect such a Special Health Register to now be stored.*

*Please let me be clear this is NOT a request for "medical records" as you have previously interpreted, as some of this data may not have been categorised as such at the time. I seek the specific report on blood tests you mention in the review, as well as all information you hold about urine monitoring regardless of whether it includes results or not.*

*Lastly I am seeking advice about the meaning of ADP, and the likely location of information you do not currently hold but may well have held in the past.*

Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

With regard to your first point concerning the document we declined to provide, this is located in the National Archives at Kew, <https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/C560315>.

We have also noted that there are a number of documents, including court transcripts, located in the Australian National Archives that may be of use to you. You can search for these here: <https://www.naa.gov.au/>



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With regards to your request for *all information you hold about urine monitoring of service personnel*, we can advise that whilst AWE holds some information in scope of this subject, we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit set out at Section 12 of the Act.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with these would exceed the appropriate limit, which for public authorities is set at £450. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 2.25 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting it. While we have located information in scope of your request, there are a large number of documents and determining what is in scope and extracting it will exceed the £450 cost limit.

It may be helpful for you to know that the documents we have found include reports, court transcripts, documents prepared for court cases, previous FOI responses, emails and technical notes. In total there are approximately 600 pages which may contain relevant information which would exceed the cost limit if we were to review them. Please note that if you break your request down into several smaller requests, we may still consider that your requests fall under the cost limit in their entirety.

Regarding the definition of ADP and *the likely location of information you do not currently hold but may well have held in the past*, we can confirm that AWE holds no recorded information to answer these points.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications. If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled you have a right to request an internal review within 40 days of receiving this letter, by writing to [information.requests@awe.co.uk](mailto:information.requests@awe.co.uk) or our postal address: Information Requests Team, AWE Aldermaston, Reading, RG7 4PR. If you are still unhappy after an internal review has been completed, under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 you have the right to take your complaint to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please note the Commissioner will generally not consider a complaint until you have exhausted AWE's internal complaints process.

Yours sincerely,

AWE Information Requests Team