

Ref: FOI2025-059

17 November 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Further to our previous correspondence regarding your request for the following information:

Original request:

1. *How many records are held in archive A38.1*
2. *The date of creation of archive A38.1*
3. *What format archive A38.1 is stored in - ie digital, paper, PDF*
4. *The security level necessary for an individual to access archive A38.1*
5. *How many times archive A38.1 has been accessed since 2020*
6. *Whether archive A38.1 includes copies of the Blue Books*"

Refined request:

"Please refine this request by substituting the request for "how many" records are held in archive a38.1 to any other quantitative description that is convenient - ie how many boxes, how many bytes, how much space or other quantitative answer that would provide a rough if not exact description of the comparative size of the archive.

Not knowing the answer to what format it is in makes it hard to ask a definitive question; assuming from your response it's in physically countable hard copies, please just give some indication of its size. As you have been able to calculate how many hours counting the records would take, you just have some idea of its overall dimensions to have enabled such a calculation."

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

A search for the requested information within AWE is now complete, and we can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

With regard to points 1, 3 and 6, the best quantitative description of Archive A38.1 would be that it is made up approximately 35 metres of A4 paper across the 8 double filing cabinets and 4 smaller drawer cabinets. The archive is paper based.

We can confirm that A38.1 includes copies of the 'Blue Books'.

With regard to points 2, 4 and 5, thorough searches have been carried out to locate the information you requested; we can confirm that AWE has not been successful in locating any relevant information.

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 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