



Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2026/13683

E-mail: NADGroup-PolSec@mod.gov.uk

Mr Chris Cole
chris@dronewars.net

06/08/2026

Dear Mr Chris Cole,

Thank you for your email of 1 July 2026 requesting the following information:

- "a) How many staff does the Uncrewed Design Authority (DUxDA) have as at 1st July 2026, broken down between military personnel and civilian staff and what are the ranks of the military personnel and levels of the civil servants?*
- b) Have any personnel from outside organisations or industry been seconded to, or are in any other way working for DUxDA since 1st July 2025? If so, please can you detail which organisations/companies.*
- c) What is the budget of the Defence Uncrewed Design Authority for the current financial year (26/27)?*
- d) Please can I have a copy of any report on the work of DUxDA since it has been set up?"*

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 Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information falling within the scope of parts (a), (b) and (c) of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found in **Annex A**, however, the Ministry of Defence estimates that the cost of complying with part (d) of your request would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. Accordingly, part (d) of your request is exempt under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), you may wish to consider refining your request to seek information relating to a specific DUxDA workstream, programme, meeting series, report title or date range. Should you wish to submit a narrower request, the Ministry of Defence will consider it on its merits.

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.gov.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,

NAD Group Policy Secretariat

Annex A

- a) How many staff does the Defence Uncrewed Design Authority (DUxDA) have as at 1 July 2026, broken down between military personnel and civilian staff and what are the ranks of the military personnel and levels of the civil servants?

Answer: As of 1 July 2026, the Defence Uncrewed Design Authority (DUxDA) comprised seven civilian posts and no military personnel.

The civilian posts are as follows:

- One Level 5
- One Level 4
- Five Subject Matter Experts provided through the Ministry of Defence-wide Project Delivery Partner (PDP) framework

- b) Have any personnel from outside organisations or industry been seconded to, or are in any other way working for DUxDA since 1 July 2025? If so, please detail which organisations/companies.

Answer: No personnel from organisations outside the Ministry of Defence have been seconded to DUxDA or formally worked for DUxDA under a Ministry of Defence contractual arrangement, other than the resources provided through the Project Delivery Partner (PDP) framework mentioned above.

- c) What is the budget of the Defence Uncrewed Design Authority for the current financial year (2026/27)?

Answer: DUxDA has an annual operating budget of approximately £4.5 million for 2026/27.

This budget mainly covers operating expenditure associated with personnel resources, with a smaller portion allocated to studies, operational analysis, and capability analysis activities.

- d) Please can I have a copy of any report on the work of DUxDA since it has been set up?

Answer: Information within the scope of this request is held. However, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Details of the exemption are set out above.