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Our Ref: eCase:FOI 2014/02413 RFI: 115/14

Date: 8 July 2014

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: SOCIAL MEDIA.

I refer to your email request of the 14th June 2014 which we acknowledged on the 19th June 2014. In your email you requested:

- 1. What is your organisations policy on the use of social media?
- 2. Do you provide guidance for employees regarding the use of social media outside of work? What is this guidance?
- 3. How many conduct issues did you have in 2011, 2012 and 2013 relating to the use of social media?
- 4. How many of these cases resulted in the employees dismissal? How many received written warnings?

I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence Police do hold this information.

1. What is your organisations policy on the use of social media?

I attach a copy of "Guidelines on the Safe Use of the Internet and Social Media by MDP Officers" dated January 2013.

2. Do you provide guidance for **employees** regarding the use of social media outside of work? What is this guidance?

I attach a copy of "Guidelines on the Safe Use of the Internet and Social Media by MDP Officers" dated January 2013.

3. How many conduct issues did you have in 2011, 2012 and 2013 relating to the use of social media?

Cases recorded during 2011 – Three cases (involving four officers)

Cases recorded during 2012 – One case (involving one officer)

Cases recorded during 2013 - No cases of this type

4. How many of these cases resulted in the employees dismissal? How many received written warnings?

Dismissal - 0

Written Warnings – 1 (one officer from one case recorded during 2011)

We can be clear that security is our top priority which is precisely why we have clear social media guidelines that help ensure conduct online is always lawful, appropriate and professional.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. 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, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB (email 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 investigate the 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.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely