



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
Navy Command Headquarters
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Ref FOI 2014/04574

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Via email: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

23 September 2014

Dear XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Release of Information

Thank you for your email of 26 August requesting details of complaints involving improper behaviour made against male commanders of RN warships over the last 10 years. Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by the Royal Navy, however, it is not held centrally or recorded in a format that can be retrieved within the cost parameters. To answer the FOI we would need to retrieve all the complaint files for the period requested. In order to provide the information it would take around 8 days to identify and retrieve the files and, once retrieved, considerably longer to identify those records that fall within scope of your request.

Section 12 of the FOI Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 days in determining whether the department holds the information and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

By way of assisting with your request however, as required under s16 of the FOI Act, we can provide a link to the response to another recent FOI request which provided details of complaints against commanders of Royal Navy Warships for the year up to August 2014.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/345685/rn_warship_commanders.pdf

I hope this is helpful. 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 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 Head of Corporate Information, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail 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 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.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

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Navy Command Secretariat FOI Section