



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
Navy Command Headquarters
MP 1-4, Leach Building
Whale Island
PORTSMOUTH
PO2 8BY

2014-04025

Telephone [MOD]: [REDACTED]
Facsimile [MOD]: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10 September 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence dated 1 August 2014 requesting information on breaches of the [Armed Forces] code of social conduct. 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 Department holds the information that you have requested and taking your questions in order:

Q1. The number of officers investigated for alleged breaches of the code of social conduct where that breach is an improper personal relationship with another member of staff

A1. Between 1 January 2013 and 31 July 2014 fewer than five officers were investigated, following an application to the Navy Command Casework Cell, for alleged breaches of the Armed Forces Code of Social Conduct involving another member of staff.

Q2. The gender of those accused of such a breach as a proportion of that gender in the wider organisation

A2. The table below provides the gender breakdown and utilises the regular trained strength figure to calculate the proportion:

	Count	Average strength	Proportion
Male	<5	27,990	0.05%
Female	<5	2,780	0.15%
Total	<5	30,770	0.05%

Note: Average strength has been rounded and uses a centred moving average between 1 December 2012 and 1 July 2014. As 1 August data is not yet available, data beyond 1 July 2014 cannot be used in the average strength calculation.

Q3. The action taken against the 'senior officer' in all cases where the accusation was upheld

A3. There is no standard definition of a 'senior officer', but the officer in respect of whom each of these applications was made was senior to the other party involved, and the action taken in each case was removal from assignment.

Q4. The number of those making accusations moved in the six months following the investigation from their position at the time of the accusation, irrespective of outcome

A4. This information is not held.

Q5. The number of those accused moved in the six months following the investigation from their position at the time of accusation, irrespective of outcome

A5. All of the applications made between 1 January 2013 and 31 July 2014, led to the officer involved being formally removed from assignment when a breach of the Code of Social Conduct was alleged, irrespective of the outcome of any ongoing investigation.

Where the numbers are fewer than five they are suppressed and indicated as <5.

You may also wish to be aware that the details for removal from assignment can be obtained from the following link:

<http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/~media/royal%20navy%20responsive/documents/useful%20resources/br%203/br3book/ch60.pdf>

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 Information Rights Compliance team, 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

