

Our Reference: FOI2015/04713

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23 June 2015

Dear

Thank you for your email dated 27 April requesting the following information:

I would like to ask you for the sexual hassment cases data inside of the British military in the last ten years (2004-2014).

I would appreciate if you could send to me the total number of cases, the number of convicted cases and all relative data about the victim that it is possible to know in order to the Data Protection Act.

You clarified your request by email on 27 May to:

Thank you for your response. In order to offer further information to clarificate my request, I want to inform to you that I am asking for the cases from a court of military law. In addition, it is enough if I recieve this information about only the last five years.

I am writing to confirm that we are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For the purposes of your request, the term sexual harassment has been identified as offences contrary to Section 1 or Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act 1997.

There have been six cases of allegations of sexual harassment recorded within the military in the last five years, of which one was upheld and the suspect found guilty.

Of the alleged victims, six were female and one male (one case comprised two victims).

The data is limited to information recorded by the MOD for the period 01 Jan 10 to 10 Jun 15, based on cases where the Service Police or the Ministry of Defence Police have jurisdiction and the investigative lead. It does not therefore, include cases which have been dealt with by the civilian police. The information has been collated by the Service Police Crime Bureau's (SPCB) Crime Statistics Analysis Cell (CSAC) on behalf of the Royal Navy Police, the Royal Military Police and the Royal Air Force Police. The SPCB information has been extracted from a database known as "REDCAP". While REDCAP can be searched in various ways (for example, via crime classification, date of offence or date of birth),

problems with the way information has been electronically recorded over many years means that its search tools do not enable it to provide accurate answers to Questions of this kind. The CSAC has therefore made a general ("catch all") search of REDCAP using its existing search facilities (based on, amongst other things, crime classifications) followed by manual checks on records to determine (a) whether the information held on REDCAP is accurate; and (b) whether it falls within the scope of the question. The Ministry of Defence Police information has been collated from the MOD Police Crime Recording system UNIFI.

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, Zone N, 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://ico.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat