



# Ministry of Defence

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Our Reference: FOI2015/06696

[REDACTED]

25 August 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 29 July 2015 requesting the following information:

Under the FOI Act I would like details of all ongoing or recent, within two years, investigations by the MOD Police, RMP, or civilian police investigations into allegations of historic child sex abuse in the RAF, the Royal Navy and the Army.

I would like to know details of the operational name for each investigation, when the investigations began, why it was launched, how many people have been interviewed and how many people have been charged, are awaiting trial or have been convicted.

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that the MOD does hold some information within the scope of your request; this is provided in the attached Annex.

The data is limited to information recorded by the MOD for the period 1 August 2013 to 31 July 2015, 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". The MOD 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 Information Rights Compliance team, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail [CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk](mailto: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.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

Defence People Secretariat FOI

Number of investigations initiated into allegations of historic child sex abuse 1 August 2013-31 December 2013				
Service	Number of Investigations	Outcome		
		Referred	Insufficient Evidence	Ongoing
Royal Navy	-	-	-	-
British Army	10	~	~	~
Royal Air Force	~	-	-	~

Number of investigations initiated into allegations of historic child sex abuse 1 January 2014- December 2014				
Service	Number of Investigations	Outcome		
		Referred	Insufficient Evidence	Ongoing
Royal Navy	~	~	-	-
British Army	20	~	~	10
Royal Air Force	~	-	~	~

Number of investigations initiated into allegations of historic child sex abuse 1 January 2015-31 July 2015				
Service	Number of Investigations	Outcome		
		Referred	Insufficient Evidence	Ongoing
Royal Navy	-	-	-	-
British Army	~	-	-	~
Royal Air Force	~	-	-	~

## Notes

1. In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, the figures provided have been rounded to the nearest 10, where "~" denotes a number less than or equal to five. Due to the rounding methods used, totals may not always equal the sum of the parts.
2. The data covers all investigations where the Service Police were the lead agency (i.e. had jurisdiction) that were initiated between 1 August 2013 and 31 July 15.
3. The term 'historic' has been given the meaning of where an offence is allegedly committed in one year, but reported and therefore investigated in another year.
4. Child Sex Abuse encompasses offences of Schedule 1 and 3 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003 where the victim is 17 yrs or under as well as Schedule 5 to 19 inclusive of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, which are sexual offences that can only be committed against children
5. Because of the jurisdictional position it should not be assumed that all victims are a member of the military; however, every case where we have retained jurisdiction has a military nexus.
6. The Armed Forces have a zero tolerance approach to all forms of sexual harassment and abuse and we take allegations of this nature very seriously. The Service Police have the specialist investigative capability to conduct investigations relating to allegations of historic sexual offences at overseas locations, and any such allegations will be thoroughly investigated.