



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
Main Building (06/D/14)
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB
United Kingdom

Telephone [MOD]: +44 (0)20 7218 9000

Ref: Pers Trg-Sec/FOI: 2015/03390

28 May 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 26 March in which you requested the following information:

I would like to know whether any service personnel have tested positive for legal highs and if so what action was taken against them.

I would also like to know whether service personnel have been found in possession of Legal highs and if so what action was taken against them.

I would like data for the last three years.

On 27 April you clarified the meaning of 'legal highs' to be:

The Home Office definition of legal highs is "new psycho active substances" mainly involving the chemical Mephedrone.

Other drugs described as legal highs include drugs using names such as Plant Food, NPS, MDAT, Eric3, Dimethocaine, Baths Salts, Spice GBL, MDAI, Benzo Fury, Salvia Divinorum, Methoxetamine, Etizolam,

Laugh gas, Nitrous Oxide, also comes under the definition of legal highs.

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that no Service Personnel have tested positive for Legal Highs in the past three years.

The laboratory contracted to provide results of Compulsory Drugs Testing (CDT) only reports positive tests for controlled drugs as defined by section 2 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

The possession of Legal Highs by Service Personnel is not recorded centrally. The Department's current policy is that the misuse of substances may result in administrative action being taken.

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://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely
Defence People Secretariat