



Ministry of Defence Police

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By Email – [REDACTED]

Our Ref: eCase: 10131-15 RFI: 241-15

Date: 14th December 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: DIGITAL FORENSICS.

Thank you for your email of 13 November 2015 requesting the following information:

'Please could you supply the following information regarding the digital forensic service in your Police force for the most recent financial year (14/15) and preceding three years (13/14, 12/13, 11/12) if the data is available.

1. How many cases involved digital evidence (computers, phones, tablets, satnavs etc)?
 - a. What was the distribution of these cases by offence?
2. How many exhibits seized were digital?
3. How many in-house digital forensics staff do you employ?
4. How much did you spend on digital forensics services in-house?
 - a. How much did you spend on staff training?
 - b. How much did you spend on equipment and software for the unit?
 - c. What are the minimum requirements for your digital forensics staff (training, experience etc)?
 - d. What is the annual budget for digital forensics?
5. How many exhibits were outsourced to private companies for analysis?
 - a. How many companies do you outsource to?
 - b. Do you put out tenders for the work?
 - c. Do you hold contracts with companies for work and what are the conditions of these (or are they available to view)?

6. How much did you spend on outsourcing digital forensic services?

7. What was the backlog of digital forensic exhibits at the end of each year (or currently, if historical data is not available)

8. What was the average turnaround time of a digital forensic exhibit analysis at the end of each year (or currently, if historical data is not available) in days?"

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

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that some information is held by the Ministry of Defence Police of the description specified in your request.

1. How many cases involved digital evidence (computers, phones, tablets, satnavs etc)?
 - a. What was the distribution of these cases by offence?

2014-2015	
Number of Cases involving digital exhibits	1a. Distribution of cases by offence.
29	Fraud/Corruption. Data Protection Act 1998. Theft/Handling Stolen Goods. Indecent Images of Children. Misconduct in a public office. S52 Civic Government Scotland Act. S68 aggravated trespass Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994. Internal Misconduct Investigations. Official Secrets Act.

2013-2014	
Number of Cases involving digital exhibits	1a. Distribution of cases by offence.
31	Fraud/Corruption. Internal Misconduct Investigations. Money Laundering. S1 Malicious Communications Act 1988. S1(1) Harassment Act 1997. Section 127 2c Telecommunications Act 2003. Terrorism Act 2000 s58. Theft.

2012-2013	
Number of Cases involving digital exhibits	1a. Distribution of cases by offence.
42	Fraud. Money Laundering. Communications Act 2003. Criminal Damage. Indecent Images of Children. Mental Health Act. Possession of a controlled drug with intent to supply. Sect 3 Computer Misuse Criminal Damage. Theft. Internal Misconduct Investigations.

2011-2012	
Number of Cases involving digital exhibits	1a. Distribution of cases by offence.
88	Arson and Theft. Fraud/Corruption/Bribery. Criminal Damage. Environment Agency Offences. Firearms. Forgery. GBH. Theft. Harassment. Indecent Images of Children. Internal Misconduct Investigations. Official Secrets Act. Perverting the Course of Justice. Racial Abuse. Rape/Child Abuse. Voyeurism. Money Laundering.

2. How many exhibits seized were digital?

2014/2015 – **172**, 2013/2014 – **181**, 2012/2013 – **466**, 2011/2012 – **643**.

3. How many in-house digital forensics staff do you employ?

2014/2015 – **2**, 2013/2014 – **3**, 2012/2013 – **3**, 2011/2012 – **3**.

4. How much did you spend on digital forensics services in-house?

a. How much did you spend on staff training?

b. How much did you spend on equipment and software for the unit?

c. What are the minimum requirements for your digital forensics staff (training, experience etc)?

d. What is the annual budget for digital forensics?

No specific information is held in regards to 4(a)(b)(d). The Ministry of Defence Police does not hold budget and expenditure information split down by departments (digital forensics dept). There is an overall budget for all departments.

No information is held in regards to 4(c). There are no minimum requirements in training and experience for Ministry of Defence Police digital forensics staff.

5. How many exhibits were outsourced to private companies for analysis?

a. How many companies do you outsource to?

b. Do you put out tenders for the work?

c. Do you hold contracts with companies for work and what are the conditions of these (or are they available to view)?

No information held. The Ministry of Defence Police have not outsourced to any private companies.

6. How much did you spend on outsourcing digital forensic services?

No information held. Please see above.

7. What was the backlog of digital forensic exhibits at the end of each year (or currently, if historical data is not available)

No information held. The Ministry of Defence Police had no backlog of digital forensic exhibits.

8. What was the average turnaround time of a digital forensic exhibit analysis at the end of each year (or currently, if historical data is not available) in days?

No information held. The Ministry of Defence Police do not record the average turnaround time for digital forensic exhibit analysis.

In addition under section 23(5) (Information supplied by, or relating to, bodies dealing with security matters) the MOD neither confirms nor denies whether it holds any additional information in scope of your request, which if held would be exempt under section 23.

Section 23 is an absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.

If you are not satisfied with this response or 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, London SW1A 2HB (email 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 the 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