



Ministry
of Defence

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XXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXX

31 January 2017

Dear XXXXXXXXX,

Thank you for your email of 15 January in which you requested the following information:

'I would like to request under the freedom of information act; is urine tested for drug misuse during the medical test during the ADSC army soldier selection event.'

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is not held.

While Section 1 of the Freedom of Information Act (the Act) gives an applicant the right to access recorded information held by public authorities at the time the request is made, it does not require public authorities to answer questions, provide explanations or give opinions, unless this is recorded information held. Therefore, because it is a question your request is not valid under the Act. 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 and I will try to assist. Information about formal resolution is available overleaf.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), I can confirm that drug misuse is incompatible with life in the Armed Forces which is why we run a comprehensive compulsory drug testing programme. Only serving personnel are required to provide a urine sample for the purpose of drug testing.

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, Ground 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, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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