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Ref: Army/Sec/05/01/FOI2017/10163/79547 E-mail: <u>ArmySec-Group@mod.uk</u>

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13 November 2017

Thank you for your email of 18 October in which you requested the following information:

'As recorded in the JPA system used by the army, how many complaints have been made by recruits aged under-18 or their parents/guardians at ITC Catterick about violent behaviour by staff in each of the following years a) 2014/15, b) 2015/16 and c) 2016/17?'

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 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 held and is shown in the table below.

Year Incident Reported (Financial Year)	Number of cases of alleged violent behaviour by staff at ITC Catterick towards recruits aged under-18
2014/15	~
2015/16	~
2016/17	~

In accordance with government statistical policy, numbers between 0 and 5 are shown as ~ in order to reduce the likelihood of individual cases being identified.

Alleged violent behaviour includes allegations of assault, battery or ill-treatment of a subordinate. Listed cases may include more than one alleged incident. In some listed cases the alleged ill-treatment has been described as being towards 'one or more recruits' and does not name a specific recruit. Where it can be identified that any of the recruits in a case cohort is under 18, the case has been included in this report.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, if you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request 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 should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely,

Army Secretariat