



## Ministry of Defence Police

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[REDACTED]  
By email – [REDACTED]

Our Ref: eCase: FOI2017/07929 RFI 227/17  
Date: 23 October 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: POLICE SICKNESS**

We refer to your email dated 14 August 2017 which was acknowledged on the 15 August 2017.

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

In your email you requested the following information:

- “- What is the total number of officers and PCSOs in your force?**
- What is the total number of officers who reported in sick between 2016 and 2017?**
- How many duty days have been lost in 2016 to 2017 through sickness?**
- How much money has this cost?**
- How many police officers and PCSOs are classed as being on long term sick between 2016 and 2017?”**

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held by the Ministry of Defence Police. Please see the responses below:-

#### **What is the total number of officers and PCSOs in your force?**

The total strength of the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) as at 31 July 17 was 2551 officers. Please note that the MDP does not employ PCSO's.

## **What is the total number of officers who reported in sick between 2016 and 2017?**

Between 1 January 2016 and 31 July 2017, a total of 2068 officers were recorded as incurring a period of sickness absence of at least 1 working day. 245 of these officers have subsequently left the MDP so will not be included in the current Force strength that is quoted above.

## **How many duty days have been lost in 2016 to 2017 through sickness?**

Over the 19 month period between 1 January 2016 and 31 July 2017, a total of 43,616 working days were lost as a result of sickness absence. The majority of the working days lost (i.e. 74%) related to periods of Long Term Sickness (i.e. 28 or more consecutive days).

## **How much money has this cost?**

The cost to the Force in lost productivity through officer sickness during the 19 month period covered by this request is estimated at £9M.

## **How many police officers and PCSOs are classed as being on long term sick between 2016 and 2017?**

Between 1 January 2016 and 31 July 2017, a total of 233 officers triggered the threshold for Long Term Sickness absence (i.e. 28 or more consecutive days).

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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](mailto: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

**MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office**