



Ministry
of Defence Police

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[REDACTED]
By email – [REDACTED]

Our Ref: eCase: FOI2017/01314 RFI:33/17
Date: 17 March 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: OFFICER
SUSPENSION**

We refer to your email dated 25 January 2017 which was acknowledged on 26 January 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:

“The following FOI request details 12 officers who were suspended for ‘failure to perform full range of duties’ within three weeks of each other.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/400074/20150127_MDP_Suspended_Officers_Redacted.pdf

I would like to know:

- **Where each officer was based**
- **For each one, a fuller description of the duties they failed to perform, and the date the alleged failure took place**
- **The length of time those staff were or have been individually suspended for and how much each received or has so far received in terms of salary/wage during their suspension**

Please also provide any redacted internal reports that deal with the incidents for which they were suspended”

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

In our letter of the 17 February 2017 we advised you that some of the information in the scope of your request may be subject to exemption.

I have completed a public interest test and concluded that the public interest favours not releasing some of this information. I am therefore withholding some of the information within the agreements in accordance with FOI exemptions Section 24(1) National Security, Section 26(1)(a) Defence, Section 31(1) Law enforcement and Section 40 Personal Information.

In relation to the first part of your requests, please see responses below:-

- **Where each officer was based**

All 12 officers were based at AWE Aldermaston

- **For each one, a fuller description of the duties they failed to perform, and the date the alleged failure took place**

The alleged incidents occurred on various dates in August 2014 and were in the specific context of routine police control room duties

- **The length of time those staff were or have been individually suspended for and how much each received or has so far received in terms of salary/wage during their suspension**

In relation to this part of the request, the information was provided for 9 of the officers at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/400074/2015_0127_MDP_Suspended_Officers_Redacted.pdf

In relation to the final 3 officers, the information is below:-

Start of Suspension	End of Suspension	Outcome	Salary received whilst suspended
02/10/2014	24/03/2015	Dismissed	£ 21,349.93
06/10/2014	27/03/2015	Dismissed	£ 21,226.52
06/10/2014	14/01/2015	Misconduct	£ 12,341.00

In relation to the second part of your request, I have completed a public interest test and concluded that the public interest favours not releasing this information. I am therefore withholding the information within the agreements in accordance with FOI exemptions Section 24 (1) National Security , Section 26(1) Defence and Section 31(1) Law enforcement.

- Section 24(1) National Security applies because releasing information about the security arrangements at any strategically important site would be likely to have a significant impact on national security.
- Section 26(1)(a) Defence applies because it would be prejudicial to the British Isles and to the capability and effectiveness of the Armed Services
- Section 31(1)(a) Law enforcement applies because providing details of these agreements would reveal some information that would undermine the security of the MOD Establishments, and the Ministry of Defence Police.

All Ministry of Defence Police officers are expected to perform their duties to the highest standard at all times. Any failure in such standards is taken very seriously, and disciplinary action was immediately initiated against the officers involved when it became known. There was never any threat to the safety or security of AWE Aldermaston in relation to these incidents.

Where an employee faces allegations of serious misconduct, suspension on full pay, pending investigations, is common practice.

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, Ground Floor Zone D, 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

MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office

