



Ministry  
of Defence

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11 April 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 21 March in which you requested the following information:

*"Please may I have the number of recorded incidents where a soldier has failed to abide a civilian court order as recorded by the army for the year of 2017. Also please may I have the official process for the army should a soldier be noted to be refusing a civilian court order".*

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 some of the information in scope of your request is held and is attached.

There have been seven recorded civilian court convictions relating to a breach of a court order, in the calendar year of 2017.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance), I should mention that the Army does not track failures to abide by a court order, only convictions of breaching a court order. The Army does not track civilian court orders and the adherence or lack thereof and that it is a private matter between the citizen and the court. Therefore, there is no official Army reporting process should a soldier be noted to be refusing a court order.

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](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,

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Army Secretariat.