



Ministry  
of Defence

Ministry of Defence  
Main Building  
Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2HB

Ref: FOI2017/09404

Reply to: [REDACTED]

7 November 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 2 October 2017 requesting the following information:

*"Please provide a breakdown of steroid drugs tested positive for over the past 36 months eg.:*

*2015:*

*Dianabol: 5*

*Winistrol: 10*

*Nandrolone: 5 Testosterone:  
5*

*2016:*

*Dianabol: 5*

*Winistrol: 10*

*Nandrolone: 5"*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI Act). I apologise for the delay in replying to this request.

I can advise you that following a search of our records, I have established that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) holds information within the scope of your request. The table below provides a list of the steroid drugs which have been found in positive results conducted by the UK armed forces from 1 October 2014 to 10 September 2017.

Armed Forces positive test results by Steroid	1 Oct 14 - 10 Sep 17
17a-Methyl-5a-androstanane-3a, 17b-diol	~
19-norandrosterone	~
3-hydroxystanozolol	~
Boldenone	~
Clenbuterol	10
Dienolone	~
Drostanolone	10
Epimetediol	~
Methandienone	~
Methyldrostanolone	~
Methyltestosterone	~
Nandrolone	30

Oxandrolone	~
Oxymethalone	~
Stanozolol	20
Trenbolone	20

In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data, disclosure control has been applied to the figures provided herewith. The figures provided in this response have been rounded to the nearest 10, where “~” denotes a number less than or equal to five. When rounding up to the nearest 10, numbers ending in a “5” have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent the systematic bias caused by always rounding numbers upwards. For example; a value of ‘25’ would be rounded down to ‘20’ and a value of ‘15’ would be rounded up to ‘20’.

The UK Armed Forces Compulsory Drug Testing (CDT) programme conducts a random 10% selection of samples for steroid testing. The substances liable to analysis in the AFCDT programme are listed in the Misuse of Drugs 1971 schedule 2 Part 3. This is available at the link here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1971/38/schedule/2>

The MOD conducts CDT because substance misuse is incompatible with Service life. Less than 0.8% of those tested under the MOD’s CDT programme return a positive result and personnel caught taking drugs can expect to be discharged. In a very small number of exceptional circumstances, where an uncharacteristic mistake is made by a young Service Person, second chances may be considered. This only happens where a Commanding Officer believes the individual meets the stipulated retention criteria. These retention criteria are laid out in Joint Service Publication 835, which is available on the gov.uk website.

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,

Defence People Secretariat FOI