



## Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

Room 126 Building 1070

MDP Wethersfield

Braintree CM7 4AZ

United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)1371 85[REDACTED]

E-mail: [MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk](mailto:MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk)

Our Ref: eCase: FOI2018/09324 RFI:218/18

Date: 13 August 2018

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED],

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: LOWER LIMB INJURIES**

I refer to your e-mail dated 12 July 2018, which was acknowledged on 13 July 2018.

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

In your e-mail you requested the following information:

**“I hereby respectfully request disclosure under the Freedom Of Information Act 2000 of the numbers of Police Officers within your force who have experienced a lower limb injury either on or off duty over the last 3 years from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2018.**

**This should be sourced from the appropriate Injury on Duty form(s) and/or return to work following sickness forms used in Force. The data required for each instance is as follows:**

- Total number of officers this request relates to
- Area of lower limb affected (eg: Knee, ankle, achilles etc)
- Total number & type of incidents (eg: Assault, fall, strain, sporting activity etc)
- The length of sickness reported following the injury or medically retired

For example (in table format);

**Total number of Officers: 100**

**Area effected: 50 x knee / 25 x ankle / 20 x achilles / 5 x foot**

**Type of incidents: 50 x Assaults / 25 x fall / 5 x strain / 5 x sports related**

**Total sickness per type: Assaults - 20 x days sickness (1 x medically retired) / fall x 5 days sickness / strains - 5 x days sickness / Sports - 20 x days sickness.”**

A search for information has now been completed by the Ministry of Defence Police and I can confirm that we do hold some information in scope of your request.

Medical absence codes on the absence recording system used by the Ministry of Defence Police are not broken down in enough detail to allow us to establish whether an injury is a lower limb injury. However the Ministry of Defence Police use Incident Reporting Forms which are sent to the force Health and Safety department, and this data is as follows:

	Apr 15 – Mar 16	Apr 16 – Mar 17	Apr 17 – Mar 18
Total Number of Officers	55	54	64
<b>Body Part Affected</b>			
Foot	0	3	9
Ankle	1	2	9
Knee	2	9	32
Achilles	0	3	1
Leg	0	7	8
Leg/Hip/Knee/Ankle/Foot	52	30	5
	Apr 15 – Mar 16	Apr 16 – Mar 17	Apr 17 – Mar 18
<b>Type of Incident</b>			
Fall	11	18	8
Slip	5	7	16
Strain/Sprain	16	3	3
Sports/Fitness	1	7	9
Abrasion/Bruise/Swelling	4	2	0
Vehicle accident (ie RTC) or crush	5	0	1
Laceration	4	1	2
Assault	0	0	1
Bite (animal)	2	2	0
Impact	0	1	6
Not Classified	7	13	19

Records for the above in respect of length of sickness absence are not kept.

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.gov.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**