



Ministry  
of Defence

Army Secretariat  
Army Headquarters  
IDL 24 Blenheim Building  
Marlborough Lines  
Andover  
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ  
United Kingdom

Ref: ArmySec 03/03  
FOI2019/05643

E-mail: [ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ArmySec-Group@mod.gov.uk)

Website: [www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

[Redacted]

10 July 2019

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your emails of 13 May in which you requested the following information:

*1 In the past three years, with figures given annually, how many soldiers in the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment have tested positive during compulsory drugs tests?*

*If possible, please list the class of drug, and state the soldier's rank, where they were based, and whether they were discharged as a result of the positive result.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. Please accept my apologies for the amount of time it has taken to provide the information requested. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD), and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and has been provided below. Some of this information is exempt from release under section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA. Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in deciding to withhold the information.

Please note that these figures are single service estimates and are not official statistics produced by Defence Statistics. Figures have been rounded to the nearest five to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality. '~' denotes fewer than five.

Part 1 Annual positive results for individuals in the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Year	Number of Lincs Soldiers who tested positive
2016	20
2017	15
2018	20

Part 2 All information in the tables below relate to the above positive drug test figures:

Classes of drugs

	A	B	C
2016	15	~	~
2017	15	~	-
2018	15	5	-

Part 2 Soldier Ranks

	Kgn	LCpl
2016	20	~
2017	15	-
2018	20	~

Part 2 Location:

Year	Cyprus	Preston
2016	10	10
2017	15	~
2018	10	10

Part 2 Discharge figures listed in relation to the year of positive drug test.

Year	CDT Discharges
2016	20
2017	15
2018	15

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that from 31 October 2018 the drug misuse policy was changed to a zero-tolerance approach across the Armed Forces. Soldiers who are caught taking drugs will be discharged from Service.

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,



Army secretariat