



# Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2019/04965  
RFI:159/19

Date: 22 May 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: NUMBER OF OFFENCES FEATURING APPS.**

We refer to your email dated 24 April 2019 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 25 April 2019.

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:

**Q1: "For each of the last three full calendar years (2016, 2017, 2018), the number of offences which features one of the below listed apps or sites within the classification method field:**

- i) Facebook OR Facebook Messenger
- ii) Twitter
- iii) Tinder
- iv) Grindr
- v) Yubo OR Yellow
- vi) Hinge
- vii) Whatsapp
- viii) Instagram
- ix) Tumblr
- x) Snapchat
- xi) YouTube
- xii) Reddit

**xiii) Kik**

**Q2: Further broken down by:**

**Sheet 1: MAJOR / MINOR OFFENCE – The offence section and group**

**Sheet 2: GENDER OF SUSPECT – the gender of the suspect, usually Female, Male or Unknown/unrecorded**

**Sheet 3: GENDER OF VICTIM – as above**

**Sheet 4: AGE GROUP – the age or age group of the suspect and victim: 0-17, 18-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+, Unknown**

**Sheet 5: OUTCOME - the expanded outcomes list introduced by the Home Office to most forces in April 2014 (e.g. number of charges or conviction)”**

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

Q1:

YEAR	
2016	0
2017	0
2018	2

Q2:

APP/SITE	OFFENCE SECTION/GROUP	GENDER OF SUSPECT	GENDER OF VICTIM	AGE GROUP SUSPECT	AGE GROUP VICTIM	OUTCOME
SNAPCHAT	E14 (1)	MALE	FEMALE	0-17	0-17	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION
SNAPCHAT	Q1 (1) (A) & (4)	MALE	FEMALE	0-17	0-17	COMMUNITY RESOLUTION

Additionally, the Ministry of Defence Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds any other information relevant to this request, by virtue of the following exemptions: Section 23(5) – Information relating to security bodies: Section 24(2) – National Security: Section 31(3) – Law Enforcement. Section 23 is a class based absolute exemption and not subject to a public interest test.

Section 24(2) – National Security

Section 24(2) - is a prejudice based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to articulate the harm that would be caused by confirming or not that any information is held as well as carrying out a public interest test.

Section 31(3) – Law Enforcement

Section 31(3) is a prejudice based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to articulate the harm that would be caused by confirming or not that any information is held as well as carrying out a public interest test.

I have conducted a public interest test and although there is a public interest in the transparency and openness of information and knowing that policing activity is appropriate, the public interest test determined that the balance strongly favours neither confirming or denying the Ministry of Defence Police holds any further information. This should not be used as an indication that such information is held or not held.

- Section 24(2) is engaged because to confirm or deny whether the Ministry of Defence Police hold any other information would render security measures less effective and could lead to the national security of the United Kingdom being compromised and becoming less effective. This in turn would increase the risk of harm to the public.
- Section 31(3) is engaged because to confirm or deny whether the Ministry of Defence Police hold any other information would have the effect of undermining law enforcement tactics and would be of benefit to those with criminal intent and encourage offenders to carry out further crimes.

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 Secretariat and Freedom of Information Office**