



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2019/06268
RFI:191/19

Date: 11 June 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: CHILD TRAFFICKING AND SLAVERY.

We refer to your email dated 23 May 2019 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 29 May 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:

"Police Force

01 January 2017 – 01 January 2018 and 01 January 2018 – 01 January 2019
How many police officers were employed by this force?

Child Arrests and Charging Decisions

01 January 2017 – 01 January 2018 and 01 January 2018 – 01 January 2019

- 1. How many children were arrested by this force?**
- 2. How many of the arrests resulted in drugs-related charges?**
- 3. How many of the arrests resulted in theft-related charges?**
- 4. How many of the arrests resulted in offensive weapons/bladed articles charges?**
- 5. How many of the arrested children were referred to the National Referral Mechanism to be assessed as trafficking or slavery victims? This includes children who were charged or released under investigation; and those the police took no further action against.**

Human trafficking and slavery training

01 January 2017 – 01 January 2018 and 01 January 2018 – 01 January 2019

- 1. Please specify the contents of the mandatory training courses (the names of the courses were disclosed in response to Hestia's FOI).**
- 2. Please confirm whether the mandatory training courses included:**
 - a. The legal definition of human trafficking and slavery;**
 - b. Trafficking/slavery indicators;**
 - c. The duty of police officers to identify and refer crime suspects who may be potential victims of trafficking or slavery to the National Referral Mechanism;**
 - d. How to refer crime suspects who may be potential victims to the National Referral Mechanism;**
 - e. The non-punishment principle (as enshrined in international and domestic law) – which requires police to refer crime suspects who may be potential victims, rather than to prematurely charge them.**
- 3. Please confirm the duration and mode (i.e. lecture/e-learning) of the mandatory training courses.**
- 4. Please confirm whether police officers were required to attend Continuing Professional Development sessions on human trafficking and slavery, or whether the mandatory courses were limited to one session only.**
- 5. Please confirm how many police officers from your force attended and studied the mandatory course sessions.**
- 6. Please confirm how police officers' attendance and study of the mandatory course were monitored.**
- 7. Please confirm how police officers' understanding and competence in this course was examined.**
- 8. If police officers were examined on this course, please confirm how many police officers successfully passed it.**
- 9. If police officers were not examined on this course – why not?'**

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.

1. Police Force

As of 31 January 2018 – 2534 Police Officers were employed by the Ministry of Defence Police.

As of 31 January 2019 – 2525 Police Officers were employed by the Ministry of Defence Police.

2. Child Arrests and Charging Decisions

Nil

3. Human trafficking and slavery training

Questions 4/5/6/7/8 and 9 are a 'no information held' response, as the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) do not mandate officers to complete training in Human Trafficking and Slavery.

The MDP is a civilian Police force funded by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) to protect and secure key MOD assets. The MDP does not deal with this type of offence and any cases referred to them would be redirected to the relevant local Home Office Police Force or Police Scotland

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 Secretariat and Freedom of Information Office