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Ref: FOI 2020/04658   19 May 2020

████████████████████████████

Dear ██████,

Thank you for your email dated 18 April 2020 requesting the following information:

"Could you please give the number of peoples tested positive and died by Service from the beginning of March to the present date caused by Covid 19"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that the information in scope of your request is held.

Between 1 March 2020 and 16 April 2020 (the latest data available), **121** UK armed forces personnel had a code for coronavirus (COVID-19) infection entered into their medical record (34 Naval Service[1], 58 Army and 29 RAF personnel). Of these, **80** had been confirmed with test results.

Two of these UK armed forces personnel have subsequently died. Both personnel were from the Naval Service. Please note, this information is provisional until death certificates are received from NHS Digital and the General Register Office which confirms the cause of death.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it useful to note:

MOD only hold data on NHS testing for UK armed forces personnel if test results have been supplied to Defence Primary Health Care providers for entry into the medical record.

Personnel include all UK armed forces regular and reserve trained and untrained personnel. Service was identified from the medical record

UK armed forces personnel with a confirmed case of COVID-19 were identified using:
- Electronic medical records (Defence Medical Information Capability Programme, DMICP) with a COVID-19 related read code. Please note that

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[1] The Naval Service includes Royal Navy and Royal Marines personnel.

DMICP is a live data source and is subject to change. Date of extract 17 April 2020.

- Notification of Casualty (NOTICAS) data where a positive test for COVID-19 was recorded.

The voluntary reserves not undertaking a MOD task receive their primary medical care from the NHS. Any information on COVID-19 entered in an NHS record is not held by MOD thus has not been included in the figures presented.

Defence Statistics Health receive daily notification of deaths from the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre via the Notification of Casualty (or "NOTICAS") system and have used this and other sources of military medical information to identify if the death was COVID-19 related. This information is therefore provisional until death certificates are received from NHS Digital and the General Register Office which confirms the cause of death.

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

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