



Ministry  
of Defence

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Ref: FOI2020/10531/Cadets

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14 October 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 16 September in which you refined your request referenced FOI2020/09217 to the following:

*'Thank you for your reply to my Freedom of Information request. In light of your response confirming that the data is held and suggestion to redefine the request in light of the appropriate resource constraints, I now resubmit the following only:*

- 1. How many Deputy Commandants have been dismissed from the Army Cadet Force on the grounds of "inefficiency and poor performance" (as opposed to the other grounds allowed for under ACF regulations) in the last 10 years (2010-2020). I would like the answer to be broken down by year.*
- 2. Of the number from question 1, how many (broken down by year) were because of non-attendance for 56 days or more.*

*Since the dismissal of Deputy Commandants can only be authorised in conjunction with Regional Command, then it would be unnecessary to engage with individual counties since Regional Command will know of all such cases.'*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and can be found below. However some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been withheld.

Section 40 has been applied to some of the information in order 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 making a decision to withhold the information.

Within the time period 1 January 2010 to 19 September 2019, less than five Deputy Commandants were dismissed from the Army Cadet Force for 'inefficiency and poor performance' and of them none were dismissed for non-attendance of 56 days or more. Rounding is used as a means of disclosure control and the preservation of anonymity. Due to the small numbers involved further details have been withheld. Please note that figures provided are single service estimates and not official Defence Statistics.

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,

E Mitchell  
Army Secretariat