



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2020/08333

RFI: 209/20

Date: 25 July 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: COVID 19 AND THE UNDER 18'S.

We refer to your email dated 20 July 2020 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the same date.

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:

- “1. How many under 18 year olds have been arrested or charged by your officers because of the COVID-19 restriction breaches? If this is less than 5 please say <5 or 0 as appropriate. Otherwise, please state the actual number.**
- 2. Prior to receiving this email, was your constabulary aware that the law related to COVID-19 restrictions only applies to those aged 18 and above?**
- 3. Prior to receiving this email, did your constabulary do anything to ensure that those under the age of 18 were not arrested or charged for breaches of the COVID-19 restrictions?”**

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. Nil
2. Yes
3. Internal communications regarding any changes to legislation relevant to Constabulary Powers and/or specifically the Ministry of Defence Police are always cascaded to our

Officers. When appropriate and/or practical, training on new legislation may be implemented. Officers of the Ministry of Defence police are always informed of the powers available to them and when appropriate, use these with confidence and integrity.

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