

Freedom of Information Manager

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E-mail: <u>MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk</u> Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2020/12640 RFI: 321/20

Date: 18 November 2020

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: THE INFORMATION AS TO WHY SO MANY QUERIES ARE BEING REJECTED BY THE MOD.

We refer to your email dated 17 November 2020 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the same day.

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:

"I am requesting the information as to why so many FOI requests regarding criminal offences are being rejected at the moment. I would like the figures of the FOI's that have been answered from March 2020 to present day in comparison to those that have been rejected (same dates apply.) I would also like the figures of the most common FOI and if they have been rejected or not (same dates apply.)"

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.

I am requesting the information as to why so many FOI requests regarding criminal offences are being rejected at the moment.

All FOI requests are treated in accordance with the FOI Act and therefore are not rejected.

I would like the figures of the FOI's that have been answered from March 2020 to present day in comparison to those that have been rejected (same dates apply.)

Between 1 March 2020 and 18 November 2020 the Ministry of Defence Police have processed 223 Freedom of Information requests. None have been rejected.

I would also like the figures of the most common FOI and if they have been rejected or not (same dates apply.)

It is not possible to specify which request has been the most common as this is not data recorded by the Ministry of Defence Police. However you may wish to look at the Ministry of Defence Publication Scheme using the link below to see what type of requests are processed. In respect of rejected requests see above.

https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about/publication-scheme

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