Freedom of Information Manager

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 Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/01665

RFI:056/21

Date: 11 March 2021

Dear ▮▮▮▮▮▮▮▮

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: POLICE VETTING .

We refer to your email dated 11 February 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 1 February 2021.

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 sending this request under the Freedom of Information Act to ask for the following information.

The following questions refer to requirements (and include terminology) set out and defined in the College of Policing Authorised Professional Practice guidance document on Vetting. This is attached.

1.   Have all officers and staff who joined prior to the adoption of the national vetting policy in 2006 now been retrospectively vetted?
a.   If the answer is no, please state the number who have not been retrospectively vetted.
2.   How many officers and staff have not been re-vetted at clearance level 'Recruitment vetting (RV)' [the initial vetting process for police officers, police staff and members of the Special Constabulary, see attached doc for more detail 6.11] after ten years of service in each of the following years:
a.   2018
b.   2019
c.   2020 (if data is incomplete for this year, please include data up to the most recent available point.)

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. Have all officers and staff who joined prior to the adoption of the national vetting policy in 2006 now been retrospectively vetted?

No

If the answer is no, please state the number who have not been retrospectively vetted.

1300. Work is ongoing to retrospectively vet officers who joined the Ministry of Defence Police before 2014 when recruit vetting was introduced. However, it should be noted that all officers who join the Ministry of Defence Police are subject to security vetting as part of the recruitment process and before they commence employment.

2. How many officers and staff have not been re-vetted at clearance level 'Recruitment vetting (RV)' [the initial vetting process for police officers, police staff and members of the Special Constabulary, see attached doc for more detail 6.11] after ten years of service in each of the following years:

a.   2018
b.   2019
c.   2020 (if data is incomplete for this year, please include data up to the most recent available point.)

Recruit vetting was introduced in 2014, therefore the re-vetting of officers who have joined the Force since that date will commence in 2024.

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