



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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[REDACTED] Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/03838

RFI: 120/21

Date: 5 May 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: POLICE DOMESTIC ABUSE ALLEGATIONS .

We refer to your email dated 8 April 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 12 April 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.

- 1) For each of the past five financial years, how many allegations of domestic abuse were made against officers and staff from your force?**

Please break the figures down by financial year as follows:

- a) 2016/17
- b) 2017/18
- c) 2018/19
- d) 2019/20
- e) 2020/21 (*if data is incomplete for this year, please include data up to the most recent available point*).

- 2) For each of the past five financial years, how many of these allegations...**

- i) Resulted in disciplinary action being taken against the accused officer or staff member
- ii) Resulted in the accused officer or staff member having a misconduct or gross misconduct hearing

- iii) Resulted in the accused officer or staff member being dismissed
- iv) Resulted in criminal action being taken against the accused officer or staff member
- v) Resulted in the accused officer or staff member being prosecuted

Please break the figures down by financial year as follows:

- a) 2016/17
- b) 2017/18
- c) 2018/19
- d) 2019/20
- e) 2020/21 (if data is incomplete for this year, please include data up to the most recent available point).

The government’s definition of domestic abuse is: “Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to the following types of abuse:

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial
- emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

This definition includes so called ‘honour’ based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.”

If it is not possible to answer Question 2 within the cost limit then please only answer Question 1.

A search for information has now been completed by the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) and I can confirm that we do hold information in scope of your request:

Year	Number of allegations recorded	Outcome
2016/17	3	1 case – Officer was prosecuted and resigned from the Force 1 case – Management Action 1 case – No Further Action
2017/18	1	1 case - Management Action
2018/19	5	1 case – Officer resigned from the Force 1 case – Management Action 3 cases – No Further Action
2019/20	1	1 case - Management Action
2020/21	10	3 cases – Ongoing 1 case – Reflective Practice Review 1 case – Advice provided via Ethical Standards interview 5 cases – No Further Action

Please note that all allegations of domestic abuse are reported to the local Home Department Police Force and thereafter reported to MDP Professional Standards Department to make an assessment in relation to conduct. Disciplinary action and attending misconduct/gross misconduct hearings have been treated as the same category. Criminal action and prosecution have been treated as the same category.

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