



# Ministry of Defence

Ref: FOI2021/08034

Ministry of Defence  
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16 August 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email dated 22 July 2021 requesting the following information:

*"I would like the statistics for Impairment related incidents in the workplace relating to Alcohol and Drugs over the last 5 years.*

*Of particular interest would be vehicle related incidents."*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am writing to confirm that MOD holds the information on the subject you have requested. However, I have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate cost limit. This is because to retrieve and extract information in scope of your request to determine if an incident relating to alcohol or drugs which also involved a vehicle would involve a manual review of administration records which would require at least 15 days' worth of effort. It is therefore exempt under Section 12 of the FOI Act.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The MOD may be able to provide some information in scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit. For example, if you limited your request to those alcohol and drug related incidents which resulted in injury in a vehicle and could thus be identified in electronically held records. Please contact me if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

Under Section 16, Advice and Assistance, it may be helpful to note the MOD may considering providing the following information which is in scope:

- The number of on duty incidents reported on the health and safety reporting systems related to alcohol or drugs from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2021, and how many of these involved a vehicle.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

Would you like to be added to our contact list, so that we can inform you about updates to statistics and consult you if we are thinking of making changes? You can subscribe to updates by emailing [Analysis-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Analysis-Health-PQ-FOI@mod.gov.uk).

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](mailto: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/>.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Defence Statistics Health