



# Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/12492

RFI: 284/21

Date: 3 November 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

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

We refer to your email dated 6 October 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 19 October 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:

**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. **2020**
- b. **2021 to date**

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.

**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.**

No, 1259.

**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:**

**c. 2020**

**d. 2021 to date**

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

It should be noted that all Ministry of Defence Police officers are subject to security vetting by the United Kingdom Security Vetting organisation for the purposes of their employment with the Ministry of Defence. Security vetting forms part of the pre-employment checks completed for all new officers who join the Ministry of Defence Police and our officers hold either the Security Check or Developed Vetting level of security clearance, both of which require successful completion of the Baseline Personnel Security Standard and are reviewed in accordance with the timescales detailed in United Kingdom Security Vetting policy.

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**