



Defence Business Services
DBS Secretariat
Room 6303
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton-Cleveleys
Lancashire FY5 3WP

Ref: FOI2022/01715

DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.gov.uk

4 March 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 8 February 2022 to the Ministry of Defence (MOD), seeking information about Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff.

You requested the following information:

- 1. Total numbers of Staff employed within 38 (Irish) Brigade that are currently suspended, not including Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff*
- 2. Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended.*
- 3. Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended within the past 12 months from this date 8th February 2022 to 09th February 2021.*
- 4. Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended in excess of 12 months as of the date of this request (8th February 2022).*

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

A search for the information has now been completed within the MOD and I can confirm that all information in scope of your request is held. However, in order to protect personal information governed by Data Protection legislation, Section 40(2) of the FOIA has been applied to some of the information by supplementing numbers less than 5 with a tilde (~). Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

- 1. Total numbers of Staff employed within 38 (Irish) Brigade that are currently suspended, not including Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff - Zero*
- 2. Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended – ~*
- 3. Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended within the past 12 months from this date 8th February 2022 to 09th February 2021 – ~*

4. *Total numbers of Staff employed as Northern Ireland Security Guard Service staff that are currently suspended in excess of 12 months as of the date of this request (8th February 2022) - ~*

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

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Defence Business Services Secretariat