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Ref: ArmySec/C/S/FOI2022/05550

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Thank you for your email of 5 May 2022 requesting the following information:

Dear British Army, I'd please like access to data relating to the number of allegations against armed forces personnel of sexual harassment, sexual assault, assault by penetration, voyeurism, disgraceful conduct of an indecent kind, misconduct through alcohol, harassment, and rape that have taken place, in whole or in part, in and around Brecon, Powys. Please include any incidents that took place in the town itself, Brecon Barracks, the Infantry Battle School, and your MOD facility in Sennybridge for the period January 2015 to present month-by-month.

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 Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below, but some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemption provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been withheld. Due to the small numbers, allegations by month have been exempted from release, with data rounded and grouped by year.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. 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.

## Notes:

Due to the way your request was addressed to the British Army, this request has been scoped as being for information relating to Army Service personnel.

The data have been rounded to the nearest 5 to limit disclosure and ensure confidentiality.

'~' denotes fewer than five.

A key word search of cases recorded on the Joint Personnel Administration system with a date of incident between 1 Jan 15 and 9 May 22 was conducted to identify the number of Army Service Personnel who had allegations made against them in the categories requested, with a recorded location of Brecon, the Infantry Battle School or Sennybridge. The results include allegations reported to the Service Police, the Civil Police and the chain of command.

Please note that the figures provided are single Service estimates based on data which is not gathered for statistical purposes or subject to the same level of scrutiny as official statistics produced by Defence Statistics. The figures provided may therefore be subject to data quality issues affecting their accuracy.

Year	Number of Allegations recorded on JPA
2015	5
2016	5
2017	5
2018	~
2019	~
2020	~
2021	~
2022 (to 9 May)	~

Types of Allegations found on JPA in scope of this search
Disgraceful conduct of an indecent kind
Harassment
Misconduct through alcohol*
Rape
Sexual assault
Sexual harassment

<sup>\*</sup>Includes allegations of misconduct through alcohol, drunk and disorderly and drink driving.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that more than half of these allegations related to misconduct through alcohol.

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 <a href="https://ico.org.uk/">https://ico.org.uk/</a>.

Yours sincerely,

**Army Secretariat**