

Freedom of Information Manager

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E-mail: <u>MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk</u> Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2021/15450 RFI: 368/21 Date: 20 December 2021

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: DRINK SPIKING.

We refer to your email dated 15 December 2021 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 16 December 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:

1) For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'drink spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Can you please do a keyword search of MO codes, using the terms, 'drink spiking', 'drink spike', 'drink spiked', 'spiked drink', 'drink interfered with' and 'drink drugged'.

If it is not possible to determine which offences in your records relate to 'drink spiking', then please focus on offences in the time period outlined that use the following Home Office crime codes:

- 005/10 (Administering poison so as to endanger life)

- 005/24 (Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm and intimidate)

- 005/05 (Administering drug with intent to commit, or assist in committing, an indictable offence)

- 008/02 (Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy) - 088/05 (Administering a substance with intent)

2) For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'needle spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Can you please do a keyword search of MO codes, using any combination of the terms 'spike'/'spiked', 'spiking' - or 'laced/lacing' - WITH EITHER 'needle/s', 'syringes/s', 'injecting/ion/ed', 'puncture' or 'prick'.

If it is not possible to determine which offences in your records relate to 'needle spiking', then please focus on offences in the time period outlined that use the following Home Office crime codes (alongside search terms 'needle', 'syringe' or 'injecting' etc):

- 005/10 (Administering poison so as to endanger life)

- 005/24 (Use of noxious substances or things to cause harm and intimidate)

- 005/05 (Administering drug with intent to commit, or assist in committing, an indictable offence)

- 008/02 (Administering poison with intent to injure or annoy)

- 088/05 (Administering a substance with intent)

Can you please make sure the responses to Questions 1 and 2 are given as separate figures.

- 3) If it falls within the cost limit, please provide a breakdown of the gender and age of the complainants in Questions 1 and 2 again, by month.
- 4) If it falls within the cost limit, please provide a breakdown of the number of arrests, charges and convictions for the incidents recorded in Questions 1 and 2 again, by month.

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.

For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'drink spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Year	Number of Incidents
2017	1
2018	1
2019	1
2020	1
2021	0

Note: Details in relation to month are not currently available.

For each of the last 5 calendar years, please provide the number of 'needle spiking' incidents recorded by your force. Beginning with January 2017, please break these figures down by month up to the most recent, available point.

Nil

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