



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

Palmer Pavilion,

Building 666,

RAF Wyton, Huntingdon,

Cambs, PE28 2EA

Telephone: +44 (0)1371 85 [REDACTED]

E-mail: MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2022/12275

RFI: 227/22

Date: 21st November 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE:
OFFENSIVE MESSAGES SENT BY OFFICERS.**

We refer to your email dated 21st October 2022 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 24rd October 2022.

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) **How many serving officers in your force have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages contrary to section 127 of the communications act between January 1, 2017, and October 21, 2022? Please break down the figures by calendar year.**
- (2) **If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, how many were on duty at the time the messages were allegedly sent? Please break down the figures by calendar year.**
- (3) **If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, how many were alleged to have sent the grossly offensive messages to serving colleagues? Please break down the figures by calendar year.**
- (4) **If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, what was the outcome of the investigations? Please break down the outcomes by calendar year.**

If the answers to any of the component parts of my request are not available to be released, I would be grateful if you could still nonetheless provide as much

information as possible in accordance with the rest of my request, rather than rejecting it wholesale.

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that we do hold information in scope of your request.

(1) How many serving officers in your force have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages contrary to section 127 of the communications act between January 1, 2017, and October 21, 2022? Please break down the figures by calendar year.

0

(2) If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, how many were on duty at the time the messages were allegedly sent? Please break down the figures by calendar year.

No information held.

(3) If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, how many were alleged to have sent the grossly offensive messages to serving colleagues? Please break down the figures by calendar year.

No information held.

(4) If any serving officers have been investigated for sending grossly offensive messages in the manner specified above, what was the outcome of the investigations? Please break down the outcomes by calendar year.

No information held.

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