



Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

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

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2022/14220

RFI: 272/22

Date: 19th December 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: ARRESTS OF JOURNALIST COVERING PROTESTS.

We refer to your email dated 29th November 2022 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 29th November 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:

I'm writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) to ask that you please disclose to me the amount of people arrested by your constabulary whose occupation was listed as journalist, reporter, correspondent, columnist, writer, or blogger - or however this is logged within your organisation at time of arrest - during any policing of protest action that your officers attended within the last three years 2020, 2021, 2022.

I do not need the names of those arrested, or their organisations, but I would like to include anyone taken into custody or who had equipment seized from them during these protests, be they covid, climate, women's rights, anti-military, far left/right, black lives matter or any other major relevant protest across this timeframe. This would include people who were ultimately released without charge subsequent to being arrested - a famous recent example would be Hertfordshire police arresting a journalist from LBC for covering the Just Stop Oil protests.

I'd also like to know the percentage of these instances in which further action either was or was not taken if possible.

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

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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