



# Ministry of Defence Police

Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

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E-mail: [MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk](mailto:MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk)

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2023/05767

RFI: 134/23

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE:  
HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA WITHIN POLICE FORCE.**

We refer to your email dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 by The Ministry of Defence Police.

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:

**What was the total number of complaints of alleged homophobia or transphobia made against serving police officers in your force by other serving police officers in the years:**

**2023 (up to present)**

**2022**

**2021**

**2020**

**2019**

**2018**

**How many of these complaints led to disciplinary proceedings and, of these, how many were upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

**How many of the officers against whom complaints were made were dismissed as a result of the complaint being upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

**Please provide details of any other punishments issued towards those officers who were found to have perpetrated homophobic or transphobic abuse towards their colleagues.**

**What was the total number of complaints of alleged homophobia or transphobia made against serving police officers in your force by members of the public in the years:**

**2023 (up to present)**

**2022**

**2021**

**2020**

**2019**

**2018**

**How many of these complaints led to disciplinary proceedings, and of these, how many were upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

**How many of the officers against whom complaints were made were dismissed as a result of the complaint being upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

**Please provide details of any other punishments issued towards those officers who were found to have perpetrated homophobic or transphobic abuse towards their colleagues.**

**How many serving police officers are currently being investigated for alleged homophobia or transphobia?**

**Of those, please can you provide:**

**The total number of officers that have been permitted to fulfil their duties as usual**

**The total number of officers that have been placed on restricted duties pending the outcome of an investigation**

**The total number of officers that have been suspended from duty**

**The total number of officers that have left the force**

A search for information has now been completed I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence Police do hold information in scope of your request. However, I can advise that some of the information in scope of your request falls entirely within the scope of the exemption provided for Section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA and has been redacted. Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40(2) requires the Department to conduct a balancing exercise, this exercise involves balancing the rights and interests of individuals against the legitimate interests in disclosure, this is not the same as carrying out the public interest test associated with certain exemptions in FOIA. The balancing exercise is carried out in order to decide whether the absolute exemption in section 40(2) is engaged. In particular, there is no assumption of disclosure in the legitimate interests test, as there is with qualified exemptions. The outcome of the balancing exercise lay in withholding the third-party personal data identified in the attached information

**What was the total number of complaints of alleged homophobia or transphobia made against serving police officers in your force by other serving police officers in the years:**

**2023 (up to present) - Under 5**

**2022 - Under 5**

**2021 - Under 5**

**2020 - Under 5**

2019 - Under 5

2018 - Under 5

**How many of these complaints led to disciplinary proceedings and, of these, how many were upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

2020 – Under 5

2021 – Under 5

2022 – Under 5

2023 – Under 5

**How many of the officers against whom complaints were made were dismissed as a result of the complaint being upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

No information held.

**Please provide details of any other punishments issued towards those officers who were found to have perpetrated homophobic or transphobic abuse towards their colleagues.**

No information held.

**What was the total number of complaints of alleged homophobia or transphobia made against serving police officers in your force by members of the public in the years:**

No information held.

**How many of these complaints led to disciplinary proceedings, and of these, how many were upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

No information held.

**How many of the officers against whom complaints were made were dismissed as a result of the complaint being upheld? Please provide this information by calendar year.**

No information held.

**Please provide details of any other punishments issued towards those officers who were found to have perpetrated homophobic or transphobic abuse towards their colleagues.**

No information held.

**How many serving police officers are currently being investigated for alleged homophobia or transphobia?**

Under 5

**Of those, please can you provide:**

**The total number of officers that have been permitted to fulfil their duties as usual – Under 5**

**The total number of officers that have been placed on restricted duties pending the outcome of an investigation – Under 5**

**The total number of officers that have been suspended from duty – Under 5**

**The total number of officers that have left the force – Under 5**

**Please provide details of any other punishments issued towards those officers who were found to have perpetrated homophobic or transphobic abuse towards members of the public.**

Under 5

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**