

Ministry of Defence Police Freedom of Information Manager Ministry of Defence Police Palmer Pavilion, Building 666, RAF Wyton, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE28 2EA

E-mail: <u>MDP-FOI-DP@mod.gov.uk</u> Our Ref: eCase: FOI2023/08049 RFI: 164/23 Date: 26 July 2023

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: INJURIES SUSTAINED IN FIREARMS TRAINING.

We refer to your email dated 28 June 2023 to the Ministry of Defence Police, which we acknowledged on the 28 June 2023.

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:

How many MoD Police officers have:

a/ Been recorded as having sustained an injury during ANY firearms training in the past 3 years?

b/ Had to report as off duty 'sick' as a result and,

c/ What (if any) changes have been made to the method of training or the venue used as a result of an officer(s) sustaining an injury(ies)

A search for information has now been completed by the Ministry of Defence Police.

a/ Been recorded as having sustained an injury during ANY firearms training in the past 3 years?

June to December 2020 - 18

This figure includes incidents where officers tested positive for COVID and Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) reporting was required, which will have showed up in our data base as an injury / illness during training.

2022 – 27

2023 to date - 19

b/ Had to report as off duty 'sick' as a result and,

June to December 2020 - 4

2021- 12

2022 – 12

2023 to date - 6

c/ What (if any) changes have been made to the method of training or the venue used as a result of an officer(s) sustaining an injury(ies)

The Ministry of Defence Police can neither confirm nor deny that they hold any information relevant to your request as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply by virtue of the exemption in Section 31(3) Law Enforcement.

Section 31 is a prejudiced based qualified exemption and there is a requirement to evidence the harm in disclosure and consider the public interest to ensure neither confirming or denying that information is held is appropriate.

We have conducted a Public Interest Test and concluded that the balance strongly favours neither confirming nor denying whether or not we hold information. Section 31(3) applies because to confirm or deny that the requested information is held could compromise law enforcement tactics and operational capability.

This should not be taken as conclusive evidence that any information that would meet your request exists or does not exist.

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