



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 2023/16113

RFI: 263/23

Date: 22 January 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE:
INFORMATION ON DATA PROTECTION OFFICER TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS
STANDARDS**

We refer to your email dated 28 December 2023 to the Ministry of Defence Police which was acknowledged on 29 December 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:

I am reaching out to gather some information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, specifically related to the realm of data protection and freedom of information within your authority.

My request is as follows:-

Data Protection Officers' Training and Qualifications: It would be appreciated if you could share some details on the types of training and qualifications that your authority recommends or provides funding for. I am particularly interested in understanding how these contribute to ensuring that your Data Protection Officers maintain a high standard in terms of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and certification.

Criteria for Consultants and New Recruits in Data Protection: Furthermore, I am curious about the qualifications or certifications that you look for when engaging with consultants or in the process of recruiting new team members for data protection and freedom of information roles.

For your reference, I am especially keen to know about preferences for qualifications like:

BCS Practitioner or Foundation Certificate in Data Protection EXIN Data Protection Officer Certification PDP FOI or Data Protection Certification IAPP (International Association of Privacy Professionals) Certification

I understand the demands on your time and appreciate the effort involved in responding to these requests. Please feel free to reach out to me if there are any aspects of my request that require clarification.

A search for information has now been completed I can confirm that the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) does hold information in scope of your request.

Data Protection Officers' Training and Qualifications: It would be appreciated if you could share some details on the types of training and qualifications that your authority recommends or provides funding for. I am particularly interested in understanding how these contribute to ensuring that your Data Protection Officers maintain a high standard in terms of Continuous Professional Development (CPD) and certification.

All Data Protection Officers (DPOs) for the Ministry of Defence (MOD) have their training provided through a reputable company, which is funded by the MOD, ensuring all DPOs are BCS (the Chartered Institute for IT) accredited. The DPO for the MDP is accredited to Practitioner level. There are no other staff directly involved in Data Protection within the MDP. The MDP DPO has also completed National Police Chief's Council (NPCC) certificate in Part 3 Legislation, and the IT Governance qualification in Part 3 Legislation, funded internally as part of Continued Professional Development (CPD).

Criteria for Consultants and New Recruits in Data Protection: Furthermore, I am curious about the qualifications or certifications that you look for when engaging with consultants or in the process of recruiting new team members for data protection and freedom of information roles.

MDP does not have consultants for Data Protection, nor is there a team that would require recruiting for.

If you are not satisfied with 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