



Ministry
of Defence

Navy Command FOI Section
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FOI2023/06459

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
22 June 2023

Dear [REDACTED],

Release of Information

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 May 2023 in which you requested the following information:

“Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you provide me with the following updated information:

- The percentage of PO(D)s who are currently on the CDPS?
- In addition, please could you let me know the number of RN divers who have been medically discharged for cold related injuries in the last five years?”

Your enquiry has been considered to be a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act).

A search has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. With regards to part one of your request this information can be found at Annex A to this letter.

With regards to part two of your request, I can confirm that between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022, 7 UK regular Royal Navy divers were medically discharged with a principal or contributory cause of a cold-related injury. Please note, personnel can be discharged due to multiple conditions and therefore a cold-related injury may not be the only cause of medical discharge.

Under section 16 (Advice and Assistance) of the Act, you may wish to note that Defence Statistics release annual updates on medical discharges in the UK Regular Armed Forces as an Official Statistic publication. The last statistical release was on 14 July 2022 which presented data up to 31 March 2022. The latest report can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medical-discharges-among-uk-service->

personnel-statistics-index. Please note some medical discharge numbers by cause are provisional, further details can be found in the report.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

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.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

Navy Command Secretariat - FOI Section

Table 1. Percentage of Royal Navy Divers currently serving on the Clearance Diver Pay Spine (CDPS) as at 1 April 2023, by Substantive Rank

Substantive Rank		CDPS
Total		10%
OR-9	Warrant Officer 1	100%
OR-8	Warrant Officer 2	86%
OR-7	Chief Petty Officer	62%
OR-6	Petty Officer	4%
OR-4	Leading Hand	-
OR-2	Able Rating	-

Source: Analysis (Navy)

1. '-' represents 0

