

Freedom of Information Manager

Ministry of Defence Police

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

Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2024/08767

RFI: 094/24

Date: 19 June 2024



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: HERITAGE CRIME

We refer to your email dated 26 May 2024 to the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP), which was acknowledged on 28 May 2024.

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 incidents of heritage crime have been reported to your force in the following calendar years: 2023, 2022 and 2021"

Definition (Historic England):

Heritage crime is any offence which harms the value of heritage assets and their settings.

Some heritage assets are protected by specific legislation to prevent harm caused by damage or unlicensed alteration.

However, other crimes such as theft, criminal damage, arson and anti-social behaviour offences can also damage and harm heritage assets, and interfere with the public's enjoyment and knowledge of their heritage.

Heritage assets are sites which are considered to have a value to the heritage of England and include:

- Listed buildings
- Scheduled monuments
- World Heritage Sites
- Protected marine wreck sites
- Conservation areas
- Registered parks and gardens
- Registered battlefields
- Protected military remains of aircraft and vessels of historic interest
- Undesignated but acknowledged heritage buildings and sites.

A search for information is complete and I can confirm that the MDP does hold information in scope of your request.

2021 = 0 2022 = 1, passed to another agency 2023 = 0

The Ministry of Defence Police takes all reports seriously and will respond appropriately. It is common practice to work with other agencies such as Home Office Police forces, Police Service of Scotland and Police Service of Northern Ireland, to either attend incidents at their request or to hand over case responsibility to them.

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