



Ministry  
of Defence

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13 March 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 14 February in which you requested the following information:

*the record of active Adult Instructors suspended or disciplined in relation to allegations of sexual misconduct in the county of Yorkshire North & West ACF.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held. Some of this information is exempt from release under section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA. Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 2018. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in deciding to withhold the information.

In answer to your request, fewer than 10 currently serving Cadet Force Adult Volunteers (CFAV) in the Yorkshire North and West Army Cadet Force (ACF) have been suspended in relation to allegations of sexual misconduct. Please note that this figure is a single service estimate and is not an official statistic produced by Defence Statistics.

Suspensions do not imply wrongdoing. CFAV who are investigated and found guilty by the civil police are discharged from the ACF. If the civil police decide not to prosecute, an individual may still be in breach of safeguarding procedures and would therefore be discharged and referred to the Disclosure and Barring Services. However, if no evidence of wrongdoing were to be found, the suspension would be lifted, and the CFAV would be able to return to the ACF.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that Yorkshire North and West ACF has an establishment of 236 CFAVs.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. Following this, 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](mailto: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,

Army secretariat