



Ministry of Defence

Army Policy and Secretariat
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Ref: Army/Sec/C/U/FOI2021/15645

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11 January 2022

Mr David Gee

request-818032-d2df7eb2@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear Mr Gee,

Thank you for your email of 22 December 2021 in which you asked for the following information:

Thank you for answering my earlier request (ref. Army/PolSec/C/U/FOI2021/13445) on this subject. You stated there that 13 investigations into alleged violence by staff against recruits at the Army Foundation College between 2014 and 2021 led to a finding of wrongdoing. Of these 13 concluded investigations, can you also please tell me:

- 1. Whether these investigations relate to 13 individual perpetrators, or if not, how many perpetrators were involved;*
- 2. How many of the perpetrators were allowed to continue working at the Army Foundation College after the investigation into their abusive behaviour had been completed;*
- 3. How many of the perpetrators still work at the college;*
- 4. How many of the 13 investigations in question refer to incidents occurring since 2017.*

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 the information in scope of your request is held and can be found below. Some of the information falls entirely within the scope of the absolute exemptions provided for at section 40 (Personal Data) of the FOIA. For this reason the answer to part two of your request has been rounded.

Section 40(2) has been applied to some of the information in order to protect personal information as governed by the Data Protection Act 1998. Section 40 is an absolute exemption and there is therefore no requirement to consider the public interest in making a decision to withhold the information.

In response to your questions outlined above:

1. The investigations relate to 11 individuals;
2. The number of individuals who continued to be employed at the Army Foundation College following conclusion of both investigation and subsequent proceedings, was less than 5 (rounded, as above). It should be noted that these cases all involved low level misconduct.
3. None of the 11 individuals still work at AFC;
4. Seven of the investigations related to incidents occurring since 2017.

Notes/Caveats

1. Specific details of each case and their related final outcomes are personal information and cannot be disclosed.
2. Please note that the figures provided are single Service estimates based on data which is not gathered for statistical purposes or subject to the same level of scrutiny as official statistics produced by Defence Statistics. The figures provided may therefore be subject to data quality issues affecting their accuracy.

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). 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 Policy and Secretariat